FBIS DAILY REPORT

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'ARAFAT SENDS 'IMPORTANT' MESSAGE TO SOVIET LEADERS

JN131429 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1245 GMT 13 Jul 79 JN

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Abu 'Ammar received the Soviet ambassador to Lebanon, Aleksandr Soldatov, at noon today. Our correspondent has learned that the commander in chief has handed the Soviet ambassador an important message on the current situation and asked him to convey it to the Soviet leadership.

Abu 'Ammar then received the Pakistani ambassador to Lebanon. They discussed the present situation and developments on the local, Arab and international levels.

PLO'S 'ARAFAT CHAIRS MILITARY MEETING 16 JUL

JN161704 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1615 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar chaired a meeting this afternoon of the commanders and officers of the Palestine Liberation Army [PLA]. Brother Abu 'Ammar briefed those attending on recent developments on the domestic, Arab and international levels. He also gave instructions to the PLA commanders and officers on certain issues.

FATAH LEADER WITHDRAWS RESIGNATION FROM PLO-JORDAN COMMITTEE

JN170715 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 17 Jul 79 p 16 JN

[AR-RA'Y exclusive]

[Text] Damascus--Fatah Central Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas, alias Abu Mazin, has withdrawn his resignation from membership in the Jordanian-Palestinian coordination committee to strengthen steadfastness in the occupied Arab territory. Abu Mazin resigned from the aforementioned committee because of differences over Palestinian representation in the committee. This led to the postponement of the convening of the joint committee, whose agenda included endorsement of certain projects in the occupied territory. The joint committee is expected to convene a plenary session in the next few days.

ARAB TRANSPORT WORKERS FEDERATION BOYCOTTS EGYPT

JN131701 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 13 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Beirut--The executive council of the Arab Transport Workers Federation today issued a political statement asserting that the Joint National Action Charter between fraternal Syria and Iraq is the crucial and practical reply to the Zionist and imperialist onslaught aimed against the Arab nation's struggle.

The statement stresses the Arab workers' solidarity with the Egyptian toiling class and its national movement in their struggle to overthrow traitor As-Sadat and his regime and to return Egypt to the pan-Arab fold. The statement says that the council has adopted several economic, political and vocational decisions, foremost of which is that which boycotts the Egyptian means of transport and those of the United States, as well as their interests.

UK JOURNALIST DESCRIBES SOVIET TRAINING FOR PLO

LD161441 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 16 Jul 79 p 5 LD

[Robert Moss report: "Moscow Backs Terror Inc."]

[Excerpt] In the storm of controversy inspired by the red-carpet reception that the Austrian chancellor, Bruno Kreisky, recently accorded PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat, one vital fact passed largely neglected.

This is that it is a tragic error for any Western government to confer any degree of legitimacy on the PLO, not only because of its methods--the deliberate assault on innocent men, women and children in many different countries--but because its operations are directly supported and, in some cases, controlled by the Soviet Union.

I have called attention in this column in the past to the services that the PLO has rendered to the Soviet KGB; for example, by providing a link, or "cut-out," between Moscow and Ayatollah Khomeyni's entourage before the overthrow of the shah; by helping to set up a new revolutionary secret police in Teheran; and by arming and advising extreme left-wing groups in Turkey.

I can now make public some important new evidence of the degree of Soviet involvement in PLO activities. The Russians are currently training hundreds of Palestinians--in addition to recruits from the radical Arab states and carefully-picked non-Arabs of the "Carlos" type--in establishments near Moscow and along the Black Sea.

There are similar training camps (at which the East Germans figure prominently as instructors) near Varna in Bulgaria and in Czechoslovakia.

The military academy at Simferopol in the Crimea is a primary reception centre for PLO men selected for sabotage and terrorist training in the Soviet Union. Courses specially tailored for the Palestinians (according to sources inside the PLO) include river crossings and all types of sabotage.

These courses are attended by mixed groups of 50-60 PLO trainees, drawn from different guerrilla organisations according to a quota system.

At a typical course at Simferopol, there were recruits from Fatah, As-Sa'iqah (a Syrian-based group whose foreign operations are under the direct supervision of Syrian military intelligence), the Palestine Liberation Front (PLF) and George Habash's Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP).

The differences between these rival terror groups were apparently submerged, on this occasion, for the sake of collective self-advancement.

However, two other Palestinian groups that were invited to send trainees to the course declined the invitation: the Iraqi-based Arab Liberation Front (nominally headed by Abu Shamil but in reality a wholly owned subsidiary of Iraq's G-2) because it was jealous of the preponderance of Fatah members; the overtly Marxist Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), headed by Nayif Hawatimah, on the grounds that, as communists, their members already had ample facilities available to them in the Soviet Union that were not open to other Palestinians.

Significantly, efforts to indoctrinate PLO trainees in the virtues of the Soviet system begin even before their departure--equipped with doctored Jordanian, Iranian or Lebanese passports--from the camps in Lebanon and Syria.

Officers from the "Political Department" of Fatah like Abu Khalid Husayn, formerly based at the Shatila camp, provide crash courses in the achievements of the Bolshevik revolution and the Soviet model of society.

On arrival in Moscow, Palestinian recruits are received by Al-'Amid ash-Sa'ir and Hikmat Abu Zayd, the director and deputy director (respectively) of the PLO office in Russia.

Palestinian trainees of above-average aptitudes are sometimes transferred for special courses in KGB or GRU (Soviet military intelligence) schools, which also receive a steady intake of intelligence officers from Libya, Syria, Iraq and South Yemen.

In the Soviet view, the PLO is a tremendously useful asset. It can supply (A) shocktroops, like the members of Idi Amin's bodyguard in Uganda (B) subversive agents, like the networks in the gulf sheikdoms and Saudi Arabia that can now hold a knife to the throats of pro-Western monarchs and (C) all-purpose terrorists--without automatically implicating the Russians in PLO operations.

The PLO can serve as the middleman in supplying arms to the "national liberation movements" that the Soviet Union is pledged to support under article 28 of its revised (1977) constitution--a document that openly defines support for terrorism as a permanent element in Soviet policy, under the euphemistic phrasing, and should therefore bring down on the Russians' heads the opprobrium deserved by a "terrorist state."

In the view of some Western analysts, it was thanks to the PLO that Joshua Nkomo's ZAPU terrorists were able to shoot down two Rhodesian civilian airliners with Soviet-made Strela (SAM-7) missiles.

The inventory of Soviet-made arms in the hands of the PLO is long and impressive, including many types of anti-tank and anti-aircraft missiles, artillery, and the same kind of sub-machine gun (the Czech-made Skorpion) that Italian ballistics experts have now concluded was the murder weapon in the Aldo Moro case.

The PLO under Soviet guidance has not been parsimonious about making its extensive armoury available to sympathetic groups in other parts of the world. Gen. Ergun Gokdeniz, in a recent interview with a Turkish Army magazine, confirmed my reports in this column about the PLO's role in arming Turkish rebels, and commented that, thanks to the Russians, the PLO "have been trained for wars of liberation to be fought with Marxist-Leninist methods."

OAU SUMMIT CONFERENCE IN MONROVIA BEGINS 17 JULY

For reportage on the proceedings of the 16th Ordinary Conference of the Organization of African Unity in Monrovia, Liberia, beginning 17 July, and the preceding Foreign Ministers Council meeting, including activities of representatives from the North African-Arab states, see the Inter-African section of the 16 July Sub-Saharan Africa DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

BAHRAIN

AL-MAWAQIF ADVOCATES IMPLEMENTATION OF OIL WEAPON

JN161320 Doha QNA in Arabic 0920 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Excerpts] Manama, 16 July--The Bahraini weekly Al-MAWAQIF calls on the Arab states to implement the oil weapon by imposing a boycott on the United States and withdrawing Arab funds if the United States does not alter its stand on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

In today's comment, the newspaper poses the following questions: Has the time not come for implementation of the oil boycott against the United States, since this is the most dangerous weapon at the disposal of the Arabs? Has the time not come for withdrawing Arab funds from the United States and imposing sanctions on its goods? Has the time not come for adopting a serious stand toward the United States, the country which daily threatens to occupy the oilfields and which has adopted a biased stand against the Arabs, in Israel's favor?

Concluding its comment, the newspaper calls on the Arab states to coordinate their stand and formulate a unified strategy to confront all the dangers facing them. The paper says: We have to take U.S. threats to occupy the oilfields (seriously) and to adopt positive and effective steps to confront such threats. We must not just say that the U.S. will only get to the oilfields over our dead bodies.

KUWAIT

CABINET AFFAIRS MINISTER GRANTS INTERVIEW TO QNA

JN131422 Doha QNA in Arabic 1145 GMT 13 Jul 79 JN

[Interview granted by Kuwaiti Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn to a QNA correspondent in Kuwait--date not specified]

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 13 July--'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, Kuwaiti minister of state for cabinet affairs, has stressed that the emancipation of holy Jerusalem from the Israeli occupation is a Muslim responsibility and not only an Arab duty. He called upon Arab states to draw up a logical and deep-rooted strategy to achieve this task.

In a special interview with a QNA correspondent in Kuwait, 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn has underlined the need to bypass all marginal Arab differences, stressing that most of the Arabs are convinced that the United Nations is the most appropriate place to handle the Arab cause.

He has affirmed that the gulf states firmly reject any foreign interference in their affairs.

However, 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn has noted that if the United Nations disappoints the Arabs, then the Arab nation will have no choice but to mobilize all its capabilities and prepare well for the comprehensive liberation of the occupied territories in order to restore the usurped rights. The Kuwaiti minister said: This could be achieved only by drawing up a well-established Arab strategy, since this is a vital and important demand. This must be based on detailed scientific planning and sound preparation to be approved at the highest level in the Arab homeland.

Asked about the recent U.S. officials' statements on forming a U.S. military intervention force to defend the gulf oil wells and whether it is true that certain gulf states are in favor of such measures, 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn said: Oil wells not only exist in the gulf area. There are many other oil wells spread all over the world and in the Northern and Southern Americas. So it is really surprising to concentrate only the the gulf area. It is true that the gulf area is one of the most copious oil sources in the entire world, yet this does not justify this statement and such threats.

'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn added: Maybe pan-Arabism is the main reason behind these threats and statements. If this is the case, it will only further prove to the world that Zionism is directing public opinion, especially in the United States, and trying to convince the world that the Arabs are the cause of the current oil crisis and the rise in oil prices. However, the gulf states have unanimously and repeatedly announced their rejection of any foreign interference in their affairs. This refutes the allegations that certain gulf states would welcome foreign intervention in defense of foreign aggression.

'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn has emphasized that threats against the gulf area would only expose this area to more conflicts. He said: The gulf states are determined to preserve their security and stability and to keep this area free from international conflicts. Moreover, security stabilization in this area is the best guarantee to secure a continuous flow of oil to the entire world. The gulf states realize that they form only one part of the oil-producing states. They also realize that oil is an exhaustable material, hence they care that this material be used appropriately in order to serve the gulf states' peoples.

GOVERNMENT WELCOMES CARTER'S ENERGY PROGRAM

LD171112 Kuwait Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 17 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Kuwait today welcomed the program announced by U.S. President Jimmy Carter to reduce consumption of energy. It expressed hope that constructive cooperation will be established between the oil-exporting and consumer states. In the meantime, it expressed the desire to contribute to any effort exerted to find substitutes for oil.

'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, minister of state for cabinet affairs, in a statement to KUNA said: The broad lines announced by President Carter are considered as steps toward the appeal made by Kuwait and other exporting states for restrictions in consuming and squandering oil. He added: We already confirmed that the world needs to economize in using this exhaustible material, especially since it has transpired that oil will have future uses of more importance in bringing good to mankind.

The minister of state said: The producing states have increased their oil export in the recent period in response to world demand. Therefore, we welcome the measures for reducing consumption in the big industrial states. We wish the U.S. President's program success in that respect. We also hope that constructive cooperation will be established between the oil-exporting and consumer states in a manner that will improve the welfare of all parties. We welcome as well every effort that is exerted in order to get suitable substitutes for oil. We are even prepared to contribute toward those efforts in order to prolong the life of this vital material.

PAPER ASSAILS AS-SADAT-BEGIN ALEXANDRIA MEETING

LD160815 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 12 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[Editorial: "The Friends' Plans"]

[Excerpts] Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat seized the opportunity to express greetings "to my friend, Begin" as he listened to him speaking publicly in Alexandria about his "legitimate right" to take action against the Palestinians in Lebanon. Seizing this opportunity once again, As-Sadat affirmed that peace between Egypt and Israel is real and that "we will never go back." Then together with Begin he "affirmed" their respect for Lebanese sovereignty and integrity.

But As-Sadat and his friend declared that it would not be wise to reveal the important things "which we agreed upon" because the two friends have also become partners, which means that their interests have now become common interests. It can, therefore, be automatically assumed in this partnership that plans have been unified in the face of those who try to hamper this partnership or who are trying to break it, namely the Palestinians and the Arabs.

Therefore, the Egyptian-Israeli-U.S. effort is bound to be devoted to striking at the opposition since it is quite obvious that the peace which they imagine and which they have agreed to impose is not the peace that the Palestinians, the Syrians or the other Arabs could possibly accept. Such peace could only mean humiliation for the Arabs and the crushing of them out of existence.

Therefore, the peace about which the two friends are boasting can be achieved only on one condition--removing Arab opposition by stifling it. This can be achieved only through war or starting bush fires in the area similar to what is happening in Lebanon or what is being envisaged for Syria, to say nothing of the campaign of intimidation and terror against Jordan.

We are convinced that the As-Sadat-Begin meeting in Alexandria has paid special attention to the question of how to "discipline" or liquidate the Arab rejectionist forces in the northeastern front so that a climate will be created in which the Arabs will submit to As-Sadat's will, like a herd of cattle.

There is no doubt that As-Sadat and Begin realize that the Syrian, Palestinian and Arab rejection could only be ended through assassinations and conspiracies especially since no Arabs on the northeastern front or anywhere else will accept what Begin is proposing.

It may be observed on this occasion that it was the Egyptian ruler who complained about the rejectionists, stirred up feeling against them, and denounced them, leaving Begin free to talk about the legitimacy of his war against the PLO. This clearly shows that the Egyptian ruler is enthusiatic about an Israeli strike against those people, a strike that would silence those who "dared" to say "no" to As-Sadat.

UAE

FRENCH PRESIDENT ARRIVES ON BRIEF VISIT

JN160554 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0530 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 July--French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing arrived in Abu Dhabi this morning on a 3-hour visit while en route to the Pacific Islands.

The French president was met on arrival by His Highness President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan; Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, the Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy commander in chief of the UAE armed forces; and a number of senior state officials.

During this brief visit, His Highness Shaykh Zayid and the French president will discuss the energy crisis, the Middle East problem and bilateral economic relations. The French president will inform His Highness Shaykh Zayid of the results of the EEC Strassbourg summit which decided to economize on energy consumption and also on the industrial powers' Tokyo summit.

Official Talks Begin

JN160728 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0650 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 July--Official talks began here this morning between UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan and French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing.

The talks are expected to deal with the situation in the Middle East, developments in light of the separate peace treaty between Egypt and Israel, political problems that concern the area and all aspects of the energy question.

Attending the talks for the UAE were Shaykh Khalifah ibn Zayid, Abu Dhabi heir apparent and deputy supreme commander of the armed forces; Rashid 'Abdallah, minister of state for foreign affairs, and a number of officials. Attending the talks for the French side were Paul Dijoud, secretary of state to the ministry of interior for overseas departments and territories, and French Ambassador to the UAE Jean-Claude Guisset.

Giscard D'Estaing's Departure

JN160926 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0850 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 16 July--French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing and the accompanying delegation left Abu Dhabi at noon today for the Pacific islands following a brief 3-hour visit to the UAE.

The French president held talks with Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, UAE president, on the situation in the Middle East and political problems of common interest, as well as the energy issue.

The French president will make a stop in Singapore for talks with the Singapore premier.

AS-SADAT, DELEGATION LEAVE FOR MONROVIA 16 JUL

NC161038 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1031 GMT 16 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Alexandria, 16 July--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat left Alexandria this morning for Monrovia to attend the African summit conference, which opens its meetings in the Liberian capital this Tuesday.

The president was seen off at Janaklis airport at 1115 by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, presidential assistants Eng Sayyid Mar'i and Mamduh Salim, and Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil.

The president was also seen off by Fikri Makram 'Ubayd, deputy prime minister and National Democratic Party secretary general; People's Assembly Speaker Dr Sufi Abu Talib; Minister of Defense and War Production Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali; Interior Minister Maj Gen Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il; Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Sulayman Mutawalli, and Minister of Tourism and Civil Aviation Dr Mahmud Amin 'Abd al-Hafiz.

Presdient as-Sadat was also seen off by Air Force Commander Lt Gen Mahmud Shakir 'Abd al-Mun'im and senior armed forces officers.

The official delegation accompanying the president to the 16th African summit conference left on the same plane.

Report On Monrovia Statement

NC170626 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 17 Jul 79 NC

[Excerpt] Soon after his arrival in Monrovia last night to participate in the African summit conference, which begins its work at 1800 Cairo time today, President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat said that he will hold consultations with the African leaders participating in the conference on the formation of a unified African force to supervise the Israeli withdrawal from Sinai, if the Soviet Union uses the right of veto against the renewal of the UNEF mandate in Sinai when this question is discussed at the UN Security Council next week.

President as-Sadat said he is optimistic regarding this question, but that he cannot predict the results of his forthcoming consultations with the African leaders.

President as-Sadat said that the current summit conference will be a real turning point in the history of the unity of the African Continent and the solidarity of its people so as to halt all foreign intervention in the countries of the continent.

ASSEMBLY COMMITTEE ASKS PLO TO RESTRAIN UNRULY ELEMENTS

NC162227 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2148 GMT 16 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 July--The People's Assembly's Foreign Relations Committee has called on the PLO leadership to exert greater efforts to restrain unruly elements that harm the cause of the Arab struggle.

The committee emphasized that Egypt can strike hard at the hands of these elements if necessary.

During its meeting this evening under committee Chairman Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din, the committee appealed to all Arab forces to reconsider their policies and different reactions to the fateful issues, to concentrate on buttressing the forces of the Arab struggle and avoid vituperation.

During their debate, the committee members pointed out that Egypt has not abandoned the plan it drew up after the October War, which restored dignity to the Arab nation, and that Egypt, which is now in the middle of its diplomatic battle with Israel, has not retreated from its position regarding the Arab cause and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and establishment of their state.

The Foreign Relations Committee expressed its appreciation for the cooperation shown by the Palestinian leadership with the Turkish authorities in rescuing the hostages held at the Egyptian Embassy in Ankara.

The committee also expressed hope that the Palestinian leaders will play their principal role during this fateful phase in the history of the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The committee emphasized its support for the government statement's affirmation that Egypt is proceeding with its clear political line toward finding a comprehensive, peaceful solution to the Arab-Israeli conflict.

The committee praised the government's stand on and awareness of the dimensions of this plan, the self-restraint it has exercised and its refusal to submit to any threat.

The committee expressed thanks to the vigilant political leadership that was able to rescue the hostages. It also expressed its gratitude to the Turkish Government, which understood the situation and cooperated in rescuing the hostages.

The committee denounced the criminal act committed by a group that aims at obstructing the peace process and fomenting hatred among the sons of the Arab nation.

The committee then referred to the great human and material sacrifices the Egyptian people have made for the sake of restoring the Palestinian people's rights, liberating the land and solving theissue in a just manner.

The committee will present its report on this subject to the People's Assembly on Wednesday morning for debate.

'UBAYD DELIVERS PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY REPORT ON EMBASSY INCIDENT

NC161440 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1344 GMT 16 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 July--The Egyptian Government has declared that the atrocious attack on the Egyptian Embassy in Ankara will not turn Egypt from its course and will not shake our self-confidence or affect the strength of our Arab affiliation.

The government stressed that this thoughtless action harms the Palestinian question. In its statement, delivered by Deputy Prime Minister Fikri Makran 'Ubayd to the People's Assembly today, the government reaffirms President as-Sadat's statement that Egypt's highest aim is to find a comprehensive and just solution to the Arab question, and foremost is the right of the Palestinian people to determine their future in their homeland, and that we will forge ahead confident of ourselves and will continue to shoulder our responsibilities.

After reviewing details of the attack on the embassy, the statement points out that the government confronted the situation on the basis of a principled stand characterized by strength and wisdom, based on the following:

1. Egypt neither accepts nor submits to threats. On this basis Egypt has categorically refused to release the Palestinians detained in Egypt.

2. Egypt does not threaten to use violence and only resorts to it in extreme cases, because it is mainly concerned with safeguarding the lives and security of its sons--also the lives of the sons of the entire Arab homeland.

3. Egypt avoids anything which may create hostile feelings toward the Palestinians, because of its belief that the Palestinians are brothers of the Egyptians.

4. Egypt fully adheres to and respects everything it pledges. Egypt has therefore continued to adhere to its values and has not addressed any threats to the terrorists. In its name and on behalf of the people of Egypt, the government conveyed its sincerest gratitude to the Turkish Government and the Turkish prime minister for their constructive cooperation with the Egyptian authorities. It also congratulated the Turkish Government for fulfilling its responsibilities and safeguarding the lives of the Egyptian diplomats. The government also thanked all those who helped the Turkish Government in handling the matter and reaching the desired end.

Turkish Source Discusses Attack

NC161500 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1435 GMT 16 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Ankara, 16 July--A responsible Turkish source has affirmed that the Palestinian aggressors who attacked the Egyptian Embassy in Ankara will be referred to the courts in accordance with Turkish criminal law.

Concerning rumors related to the establishment of a PLO office in Turkey, the same source told MENA that the Turkish Government has already expressed its willingness to open this office. The source added that Turkey's position on this subject has not changed and that it is still willing to permit the opening of the office.

Regarding Turkish-Egyptian relations the Turkish source said that these relations are good and strong and will always remain so.

AL-AKHBAR REPORTS ON SINAI WITHDRAWAL, TURNOVER

NC170932 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0750 GMT 17 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 17 July--In today's edition, the newspaper AL-AKHBAR reports that the Egyptian-Israeli joint military committee will meet this Wednesday morning in Abu Rudays to discuss the final lines for the takeover of the second withdrawal area; to work out a formula to take over the whole area in such a way that it will be transferred to Egyptian sovereignty at an official military ceremony to be held at noon on 25 July; and to specify the system of communications between the Egyptian and Israeli forces, the search system, and the observation points on the road.

Meanwhile, a committee of the Egyptian antiquities authority will take over the first Egyptian archeological site in Sinai. This site includes the areas of Sarabit al-Khadim and (Wadi al-Magharah), where crude copper and malachite quarries and mines are located.

The director of the Egyptian antiquities authority, Dr Shihatah Adam, has told AL-AKHBAR that he has formed a committee under his chairmanship. This committee will study Sinai from its archeological perspective and will compile relevant documents.

The paper also reports that the Egyptian working teams had earlier received the utilities from the area of the second Israeli withdrawal in southern Sinai. Furthermore, the military working teams have also received the military positions, mine maps, the airports of Abu Rudays and (Ra's Sur), and the landing strip at Umm Bugma.

The paper says that the lists of utilities the committee has taken over include boat moorings in Abu Rudays, Abu Zanimah, and (Ra's Ur). The civilian administration has received the water and power stations in the area. This area includes 12 populated centers and the 9 water wells used for irrigation.

The paper AL-AKHBAR says that the civilian administration has gun licenses, as well as driving licenses for some 4,000 drivers who reside in the second withdrawal area. The administration has also prepared foodstuffs for these residents, who will begin receiving these foodstuffs on 25 July--the date of the area's transfer to Egyptian sovereignty. Furthermore, the Oil Ministry has taken over some oil wells in the (Bala'im) area.

The paper adds that the day before yesterday the Israeli authorities began moving oil-prospecting and extraction equipment from the fourth phase withdrawal area, which is scheduled to be transferred to Egyptian sovereignty on 26 November. This was done in the wake of the Egyptian authorities' announcement of their refusal to purchase this equipment and in the wake of President as-Sadat's announcement at this meeting with Begin around the beginning of this month that Israel will have no oil privileges as far as Sinai oil is concerned.

The paper states that Israel is continuing to remove its heavy equipment from southern Sinai. In so doing, Israel is using the Bir Lahfan-al-'Arish road. This is because the second, third and fourth phase withdrawals will take place in the southern area. This is also part of Israel's plan to withdraw completely from Sinai before the deadline set for this withdrawal.

AL-AHRAM REPORTS AFRICAN STAND ON ISRAEL

NC170830 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0630 GMT 17 Jul 79 NC

[Text] Cairo, 17 July--The Cairo newspaper AL-AHRAM today reports that the African states have decided not to resume their diplomatic relations with Israel until a just and lasting settlement of the Palestinian question is achieved. Egypt has endorsed this decision.

PRESIDENT AL-BAKR ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT 16 JUL

JN162110 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1740 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 16 July--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr delivered a comprehensive national and moral speech this evening, in which he reviewed the revolution's march on the regional and national levels. President al-Bakr expressed his deep pride in the moral and militant standards reached by the revolution, the nature of relations in the revolution's collective leadership and the deep comradely bonds that prevail in the party. President al-Bakr said that the Ba'th Party's moral traits are one of the basic elements of its strength as a revolutionary movement which draws the masses' support and enthusiasm.

The text of the speech is as follows:

Esteemed citizens, sons of the glorious Arab nation: At this moment we are celebrating a cherished national and pan-Arab occasion--the anniversary of our great revolution on 17 July 1968. This day marks a landmark in the history of our people, country and nation. On this day 11 years ago, the proud Iraqi people put their feet on the road to a bright future by realizing their aspired revolution under the leadership of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. The Iraqi people forged ahead on their triumphant march toward liberty, dignity and progress in confidence and firmness. They also placed their feet with strong determination on the road of pan-Arab struggle for unity, liberty and socialism.

Over many years our Iraqi people waged a hard struggle filled with sacrifice and pain. They launched their first revolution in modern times in [words indistinct], then again in (?1941). They rose in successive popular upheavals in the 40's and the 50's. Then they rebelled on 14 July, on 14 Ramadan. Our people's struggle for their national objectives was a brave and magnificent struggle. Thousands were martyred and many thousands of strugglers suffered from the pains of jails, detention camps and all forms of torture and deprivation. The people sacrificed and suffered but their successive revolutionary attempts ended with failure and setbacks, because they lacked the requisites of total success.

The 17 July 1968 revolution erupted to magnificently crown our people's struggle over the previous stages. It was a mature and integrated revolution, containing the elements of success and continuity that were missing in the previous revolutionary attempts. For this reason, it progressed, developed and gained strength and prosperity over the years, despite all the conspiracies that surrounded it and all the troubles it faced. Over the past 11 years, our revolution brought about great achievements that included the entire country and all walks of life.

The revolution's first great achievement was when it was able to gain the country's full independence and firmly insure its free will. This was one of its most critical and delicate tasks, or rather battles that it waged and that are still being waged by nations who were beset by colonial domination.

Under the leadership of the Ba'th Party, the July revolution did not stop at nominal independence. It did not accept restrictions on any part, no matter how small, of its national and pan-Arab will. Under the canopy of the revolution and the historic leadership of the Ba'th Party, Iraq became a totally independent country, with free will that can act at any time and in all fields and deal with all international forces, proceeding from its national decisions and the Arab nation's pan-Arab interests.

The revolution also brought about a major national objective, which was one of our people's cherished aspirations: the consolidation of national unity on firm bases, stemming from faith and conviction and dependent on the sound relations that exist among the sons of the homeland.

Brothers, thanks to your steadfastness and sacrifices, your revolution was able to liberate the country's economy from foreign control and to build a national economic base. The Iraqi people now enjoy a distinctive standard of living compared to their state of affairs prior to the revolution. The Iraqi individiual and homeland now enjoy huge capabilities for economic progress. By all testimony, the Iraqi economy has become the strongest and most developed economy of all the countries in the region.

Under the canopy of the revolution, Iraq made huge strides on the road to scientific and cultural development. Education spread throughout the country; the concept of higher education and vocational education developed, as did the various methods of education. A comprehensive national campaign is now being launched enthusiastically and seriously to eradicate illiteracy.

In today's Iraq, millions are enrolled under the banner of the popular organizations, beginning with the vanguard organizations that include the country's future generation and including all classes, vocations and ages. All the sons of Iraq place themselves in the service of the homeland. They are preparing themselves within the framework of these various organizations to carry out the tasks of building and progess and the mission of defending the homeland and the revolution.

In our country thousands of the sons of the people carry arms in defense of the homeland, the revolution and the revolutionary gains within the framework of the people's army which is considered one of the magnificent achievements of the revolution and evidence of the firm cohesion that exists between the revolution and the masses, as well as of the masses' boundless readiness to offer sacrifices under the canopy of the revolution and its party. The revolution is proud that it brought about a great pan-Arab and national achievement, the building of a national army qualified to perform its national and pan-Arab duties.

Before the revolution the army suffered from weakness and backwardness. The revolution took place and the party leadership paid special attention to building the army into a strong and solid national edifice, to equipping it with the most powerful and modern weapons, to raising its combat and technical capabilities, and to inspring it with the spirit of patriotic relations and noble military traditions emanating from our great heritage. Under the revolution and the party leadership, our army has become the pride of the people and the Arab nation. They are looking to this army to carry out its pan-Arab duties, particularly under these critical circumstances when we are facing colonialist-Zionist conspiracies and the treason of the Egyptian ruler.

Brothers, our army is fully prepared to perform these duties with all its capabilities, and no obstacles will prevent it from doing so. Iraq's achievements under the revolution have enabled our army to truly carry out its pan-Arab responsibilities which the Arab nation expects it to perform.

When the situation in the area reached such a state that the Arab nation was threated with serious setbacks--particularly after the Egyptian ruler adopted the path of reconciliation with the enemy and sold the Palestinian cause and Arab rights, and when the Arab situation was suffering from dismemberment and hesitation--Iraq played its responsible pan-Arab role and called for the ninth Arab summit conference which was held last November.

With God's help and the participation of the brother Arabs, the Arab summit conference was able to check the collapse that came in the wake of the treasonous Camp David agreement. The summit conference was also able to provide the necessary requisites and the appropriate circumstances to confront the treasonous scheme and repulse it with all means. The experiment proved its effectiveness in various ways. God helped us reach a new kind of relationship with fraternal Syria. This relationship is proceeding with God's help toward unity. This is the pan-Arab goal sought by every honest Arab citizen. We were able to sign the Joint National Action Charter last October. Following months of positive work aimed at strengthening the special relationship between our two countries, we succeeded in moving to a new level consisting of the formation of the unified political command which we announced last June. This move may be considered as an advanced step in the two countries relations on the road to unity.

Brothers, the success and great achievements of the 17 July revolution are due primarily to the fact that it is a revolution which emanated from the people's conscience and took place on the soil of this land, and the fact that it expressed this people's genuine feelings, aspirations and hopes. The revolutionary vanguard which carried out this revolution is the historic party, the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party is not an ordinary political party, like the parties that previously existed in our country. It is the party of the Arab nation in the present age. It is the party of the Arab masses, which truly expresses the Arab nation's history, its creative personality, its hopes and pains and its ambitions and goals. It is because of this that the party was able to carry out the revolution in Iraq in this mature and profound manner and to take the march of the people's struggle to victory.

In addition to these qualities, the party enjoys qualities that we consider crucial in the Arab nation's life. These are the fine moral qualities that spring from our noble Arab ethics and from the great spirit of Islam.

The ethical qualities of the Ba'th Party are among the basic elements of its strength as a revolutionary movement that attracts the support and enthusiasm of the masses. They are among the basic elements that enabled the Ba'th Party to lead the revolution and to lead the country along the road to victory, progress, prosperity and dignity.

The ethics of the Ba'th Party stem from the people's conscience and from the nation's heritage. They embody the values of loyalty, self-denial and readiness to make all necessary sacrifices for the nation and for the sublime pan-Arab goals. Brothers, these have been the ethics of your revolution since its inception and throughout the past 11 years.

These ethics were the distinguishing character of the relations between the party leadership and the revolution from the day of its inception in July 1968 to the present day, despite all the conspiracies, difficult tasks and critical circumstances we experienced.

Proceeding from these qualities, which characterized the revolution, the party leading it and the relations among the leadership, I will speak to you on this blessed anniversary about the decision that I have made--a decision in which my brothers and comrades in the leadership have taken part.

I have grown up as a citizen son of this struggling people and of the fighting Arab nation. Throughout my life, I have felt the pains of the people and of the nation. I felt the deep ties I had with its aspirations.

I wanted to serve its just causes. Since my youth, I have lived our Iraqi people's struggle for freedom, dignity and its national goals, from the time when it embarked on its glorious revolution in 1941 against the imperialists and their agents.

I had the honor to take part with my brothers, the free officers, in the 14 July 1958 revolution, which put an end to the reactionary monarchist era that was tied to imperialism. However, a deviating and tyrannical clique assumed power after the revolution, deivating from the revolution's correct national and pan-Arab path and spreading tryranny, anarchy and hatred throughout Iraq. Once again the people had to suffer bitterness and harm, only a few weeks after their revolution. The people and their free sons had to continue the struggle once again.

During this critical stage in the country's history, when Iraq's fate was threatened by deviation from the road of Arabism and independence and was exposed to dangers of collapse and fragmentation, Iraq linked itself ideologically, organizationally and militantly with the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party. At that stage, the Ba'th Party was the courageous leader of millions of Iraqi sons against deviation and dictatorship. The purity of pan-Arab and socialist ideology, the courage and readiness to offer unlimited sacrifices for the sake of the homeland and the nation that characterized the Ba'th Party has made it a refuge for all the liberals and the pan-Arab strugglers who believe in Arabism and dignity.

Thanks to the Ba'th Party's heroic revolutionary struggle and to the masses' support and the courage of our patriotic armed forces, the glorious Ramadan revolution took place. This revolution was the paragon of all revolutions, because it was characterized by unique acts of heroism and by a strong determination and readiness to offer boundless sacrifices. However, the circumstances in which the revolution took place did not allow the party to provide it with all the requisites for success. Thus, the revolution suffered serious difficulties, which were exploited by a group of rancorous people who coveted power and by people who were ungrateful to the party and the revolution. These people conspired against the revolution and the courageous party that launched it by carrying out their criminal apostasy on 18 November 1963. However, the party, which they believed had been wiped out by their criminal apostasy, proved that it was an historic party that could not be defeated, around which the people rallied in a sincere manner.

The party continued its heroic struggle against the criminal apostasy, which imposed injustice and terrorism on the masses and strugglers and spread corruption and falsification. The country once again witnessed heroic acts of sacrifices, courage and chivalry, for which the Ba'th Party strugglers became famous.

After long years of heroic struggle, the 17 July 1968 revolution took place to normalize in Iraq and to make this country a liberated base and a center of enlightenment for the Arab revolutionary movement.

The command of the party and the Revolutionary Council honored me with the first post in the command after the revolution. With God's help and the support of my comrades in the party Regional Command and the Revolution Command Council, I have been able to shoulder this heavy responsibility for the past 11 years.

God in his Holy Book, the noble Arab ethics and the Ba'th Party's principles, democratic tradition and noble and moral values have taught us that responsibility is an honor and a duty, rather than a privilege. I have always been ready, throughout my life, to shoulder any responsibility entrusted to me by the party and the leadership, so long as I was able.

However, brothers, for a long time I have been talking to my comrades in the command, particularly cherished Comrade Saddam Husayn, about my health, which no longer allows me to shoulder the responsibilities with which the command has honored me. I used to ask them to relieve me of these burdens. However, the magnanimity of Comrade Saddam Husayn and the comrades in the leadership prompted them to refuse to discuss this. They always expressed their readiness to lift from my shoulders some of the burdens that could be lifted.

By virtue of his actual and constitutional position in the leadership and the Revolution Command Council, Comrade Saddam Husayn has long shouldered many of the burdens [words indistinct] the practical and constitutional aspects.

However, my health recently reached a stage where I could no longer assume my responsibilities in a manner that satisfies my conscience and is commensurate with the magnitude of the missions with which the command has entrusted me. Therefore, I insisted that Comrade Saddam Husayn and my comrades in the party leadership and the Revolution Command Council--and from the position of brotherhood and comradely relations that bind us--respond to my request to be relieved of my responsibilities in the party and the state. I am relieved today because my comrades have fulfilled my request.

Brothers, I am reassured and proud today because the mature standard reached by the party and the revolution, the nature of relations in the collective leadership and the deep comradely bonds have enabled us to make this decision and to transfer the authority in a constitutional and comradely manner. This, brothers, is yet another great characteristic of the July revolution and of the party that leads it.

I am reassured and proud that the great march of the party and the revolution have prepared the leader who is capable of carrying out the responsibility of the leadership with complete capability and efficiency. You all know this man, brother and Comrade Saddam Husayn, who was chosen by the Revolution Command Council as its chairman and as president of the Republic of Iraq.

Brothers, at this moment, as I bid you farewell from the position of official responsibility, I would like to express my deep thanks and extreme pride for the love, confidence and support I received during my tenure of responsibility given by the gracious sons of the Iraqi people, all thestrugglers in the Ba'th Party and my brothers in the patriotic armed forces. These noble sentiments for me were and will always remain an honor in which I will take pride all my life. I extend special thanks to my cherished brothers and comrades in the party leadership and the Revolution Command Council with whom I worked in the stage of struggle prior to the revolution and in the stage of revolutionary building, which abounds with sincere and arduous work in the service of the people and the homeland. They were the best comrades and the best leaders in their concern for their people, homeland and nation.

While congratulating brother and Comrade Saddam Husayn on assuming the honor of responsibility in the leadership of the party and the revolution, I am deeply confident that the leadership has rightly chosen the man best qualified in breeding, struggle, bravery and ability to assume the leadership.

During the bitter years of struggle prior to the revolution, Comrade Saddam Husayn was a brave and faithful struggler who enjoyed the respect and trust of the party's strugglers. On the eve of the revolution, he was at the head of the brave men who stormed the bastions of dictatorship and reaction. During the revolution's march he was the brilliant leader who was able to confront all the difficulties and shoulder all the responsibilities.

As a result, he gained the love and respect of all the comrades in the party leadership and the Revolution Command Council, as well as the love and respect of all the party strugglers and the sons of the people.

I am deeply confident that the spirit of comradeship, the principles of collective leadership that characterized the party's and the revolution's march and relations in the command will be the beacon that will light the way for the comrades in the party and revolution commands, so that the triumphant march in the service of the people and the nation may continue.

Brothers, I wish success to each individual of the sons of the gracious Iraqi people. I ask God almighty to bless the revolution's march and grant success to the glorious Arab nation in its just struggle to liberate Palestine and realize the Arab nation's great objectives of unity, liberty and socialism.

May God grant you success. Peace and God's blessings be upon you.

RCC Accepts Al-Bakr's Resignation

JN162242 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1950 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 16 July--The Revolution Command Council [RCC] has decided to accede to Chairman Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr's wish and to what he firmly put before the council as a result of his health, accepting his resignation as RCC chairman.

The council paid tribute to President al-Bakr's high spirit, which embodied the sense of responsibility in its most splendid form and reflected the noble Arab values in their finest application. The council has been President al-Bakr's constant concern for the march and the fine ethical and human ties it embodied, which were crowned by President al-Bakr in his explanation of his request for resignation from official duties.

In a decree it issued today, the RCC stressed that it found in Chairman al-Bakr a father and a leader of the triumphant march from 17 July 1968 to the present day.

The RCC added that the council will continue the struggle with the same enthusiasm, spirit, principles and morals with which President al-Bakr led the march when he was RCC chairman.

Husayn Elected Regional Command Secretary

JN162053 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2033 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 16 July--The Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command has decided to agree to the wish of struggler Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr, secretary of the party's Regional Command, to relinquish his responsibilities in the party and state.

In a meeting it held last Wednesday, the party's Regional Command adopted a resolution in which it paid tribute to Al-Bakr's struggle within the party's ranks and to his sacrifices for his goals of unity, freedom and socialism.

The party's Regional Command met on the following day and unanimously elected struggler Saddam Husayn as secretary of the party's Regional Command.

The party's Regional Command also elected 'Izzat Ibrahim as assistant secretary.

A resolution adopted by the Regional Command on this matter says that in making this historic decision, the Regional Command feels confident and hopeful that the march of the party and revolution will proceed from victory to victory under the leadership of struggler Saddam Husayn and under the flag of the great Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

Decree Appoints Husayn President

JN161919 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1809 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] In the name of God, the almighty, the compassionate: Taking cognizance of Revolution Command Council [RCC] decisions Nos 893 and 894 on 16 July 1979 and of article 39 of the provisional constitution, RCC Chairman Saddam Husayn has taken the constitutional oath stated in said article in the presence of the council.

2. Taking cognizance of the RCC decrees referred to in paragraph 1 above and of paragraph A of article 38 of the provisional constitution, RCC Chairman Saddam Husayn is president of the republic as of 16 July 1979.

3. RCC Deputy Chairman 'Izzat Ibrahim has taken the constitutional oath stated in said article in the presence of the RCC chairman and members.

[Signed] Revolution Command Council, 16 July 1979.

Deputy Prime Ministers Appointed

JN161923 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1810 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate: Taking cognizance of paragraphs F and A of article 42 of the provisional government, the Revolution Command Council [RCC], in its session on 16 July 1979, has decided the following:

1. To create the position of one or more deputy prime ministers.
2. To appoint Tahah Yasin Ramadan first deputy prime minister.
3. To appoint Na'im (Hanif) Haddad, deputy prime minister.
4. To appoint Tariq 'Aziz deputy prime minister.
5. To appoint Sa'dun Ghaydan deputy prime minister and minister of transport and communications.
6. To appoint 'Adnan Husayn deputy prime minister. He will assume the responsibilities of the chief of the president's office.
7. To appoint Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah deputy prime minister and minister of defense.
8. This decree will be published in the official gazette and will be implemented by the ministers.

[Signed] RCC chairman.

Deputy Armed Forces Chief

JN161926 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1812 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] The Revolution Command Council [RCC], in its session on 16 July 1979, had decided the following:

1. To create the position of deputy commander in chief of the armed forces.
2. To appoint Staff General 'Adnan Khayrallah as deputy commander in chief of the armed forces.
3. The ministers concerned will implement this decree.

[Signed] RCC Chairman Saddam Husayn.

Information, Culture Ministries Merged

JN161953 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1813 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Unnumbered Iraq Revolution Command Council decree]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Taking cognizance of paragraph A of article 42 of the provisional constitution, the Revolution Command Council [RCC] on 16 July 1979 has decided:

1. To merge the Ministry of Culture and Arts and the Ministry of Information into one ministry to be called the Ministry of Culture and Information.

2. The ministers concerned shall implement this decision.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, RCC chairman.

Transport, Communications Ministries Merged

JN161954 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1814 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Unnumbered Iraqi Revolution Command Council decree]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Taking cognizance of paragraph A of article 42 of the provisional constitution, the Revolution Command Council [RCC], at its session on 16 July 1979, has decided the following:

1. To merge the Ministries of Transport and Communications into one ministry to be called the Ministry of Transport and Communications.

2. The ministers concerned shall implement this decree.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, RCC chairman.

Husayn Relieves Ministers of Posts

JN162002 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1815 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, a presidential decree:

Taking cognizance of paragraph D of article 58 of the provisional constitution, we have decided the following:

1. To relieve 'Izzat Ibrahim of the post of interior minister.
2. To relieve Taha Yasin Ramadan of the post of public works and housing minister.
3. To relieve 'Adnan Husayn of the post of planning minister.
4. To relieve Muhammad 'Ayish of the post of industry and minerals minister.
5. To relieve Sa'd Qasim Hammudi of the post of information minister.
6. To relieve Karim Mahmud Shintaf of the post of culture and arts minister.
7. To relieve Fawzi 'Abdallah of the post of finance minister.
8. To relieve Latif Jasim of the post of agriculture and agrarian reform minister.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the republic. Baghdad, 22 Sha'ban 1399 Hegira, 16 July 1979.

Ministerial Appointments

JN162004 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1816 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, a presidential decree:

Taking cognizance of paragraph D of article 58 of the provisional constitution, we have decided the following:

1. To appoint Taha at-Tawfiq minister of industry and minerals.
2. To appoint Sa'dun Shakir Mahmud minister of interior.
3. To appoint 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin minister of local government.
4. To appoint Latif Nasif Jasim minister of culture and information.
5. To appoint Muhammad Fadil minister of public works and housing.
6. To appoint Taha Ibrahim al-'Abdallah minister of planning.
7. To appoint Thamir (ar-Ruzuqi) minister of finance.
8. To appoint 'Amir Mahdi minister of agriculture and agrarian reform.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, president of the republic. Baghdad, 22 Sha'ban 1399 Hegira, 16 July 1979.

RCC Secretary General Appointed

JN162047 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1819 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Unnumbered Iraqi Revolution Command Council decree]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

Taking cognizance of paragraph A of article 42 of the provisional constitution, the Revolution Command Council [RCC], at its session or 16 July 1979, has decided the following:

1. To transfer Staff Col Tariq Hamad al-'Abdallah from the Ministry of Defense to the RCC, to appoint him RCC secretary general, and to exempt him from the provisions of article 87 of amended law No 1 of 1975 regarding military service and pensions.

2. The ministers concerned shall implement this decree.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, RCC chairman.

Autonomous Council Presidents Join Cabinet

JN162048 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1821 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Unnumbered Iraqi Revolution Command Council decree]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassioniate:

Taking cognizance of the provisions of paragraph A of article 42 of the provisional constitution, the Revolution Command Council [RCC], at its session of 16 July 1979, has decided the following:

The president of the Executive Council and the president of the Legislative Council of the autonomous region shall be members of the Council of Ministers.

This decree shall be published in the official gazette.

[Signed] Saddam Husayn, RCC chairman.

Saddam Husayn's New Government

JN162214 Baghdad INA in Arabic 2120 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Excerpts] Baghdad, 16 July--The Revolution Command Council today issued a series of decrees which included ministerial amendments, the merging of a number of ministries and the creation of a new ministry, the Ministry of Local Government.

The Iraqi Government is now as follows:

1. Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister.

2. Na'im Haddad, deputy prime minister.

3. Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister.

4. Sa'dun Ghaydan, deputy prime minister and minister of transport and communications.

5. 'Adnan Husayn, deputy prime minister. He will assume the duties of the chief of the president's office.

6. Staff Gen 'Adnan Khayrallah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense.

7. Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, minister of foreign affairs.

8. Muhammad Mahjub, Minister of education.

9. Dr Mundhir Ibrahim, minister of justice.

10. Thamir (Razzuqi), minister of finance.

11. Muhammad Fadil, minister of public works and housing.

12. Dr Taha Ibrahim al-'Abdallah, minister of planning.

13. Dr Riyad Ibrahim Husayn, minister of health.

14. Tahir Tawfiq, minister of industry and minerals.

15. Dr 'Isam 'Abd 'Ali, minister of higher education and scientific research.

16. Tayih 'Abd al-Karim, minister of oil.

17. Hasan 'Ali, minister of trade.

18. Karim Mahmud Husayn, minister of youth.

19. 'Amir Mahdi, minister of agriculture and agrarian reform.

20. Hamid 'Alwan, minister of state for foreign affairs.

21. Latif Nusayyif Jasim, minister of culture and information.

22. 'Abd al-Wahhab Mahmud 'Abdallah, minister of irrigation.

23. Bakr Mahmud Rasul, minister of labor and social affairs.

24. Dr Ahmad 'Abd as-Sattar, minister of Awqaf.

25. Khalid 'Abd 'Uthman, minister of state for coordinating activities in the autonomous area.

26. Hashim Hasan, minister of state.

27. 'Ubaydullah Mustafa, minister of state.

28. 'Abdallah Isma'il Ahmad, minister of state.

29. 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, minister of local government.

31. Sa'dun Shakir, minister of interior.

AD-DUSTUR NOTES 'MODERATION' IN CARTER'S ENERGY SPEECHES

JN170724 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 17 Jul 79 pp 1, 17 JN

[Editorial: "Observations on Carter's Two Speeches"]

[Text] After a 10-day retreat, President Carter spoke twice to the American people yesterday. As expected, the energy crisis was the main theme of the two speeches. He also spoke about the crisis of confidence in America's future--which he said was the major issue--and the need to restore this confidence. In the view of various U.S. political circles, Carter's speeches were something like the first "battle cry" during the presidential elections. Whether this is true or not, or whether the main objective is above all the interests of the American people, President Carter's domestic aims are his own affair and those of the American people. This of course does not bar one from making a number of observations outside the U.S. arena. These observations are:

First, President Carter has avoided depicting OPEC as the American people's number one enemy. Contrary to the advice of several of his aides, he did not place sole responsibility for the energy crisis on OPEC. His criticism covered the U.S. Government, Congress and the oil-producing countries.

Second, the U.S. President has laid down a plan aimed at reducing domestic consumption of imported oil and searching for alternative energy sources. This trend is in harmony with the views of the oil-producing states and the summit conference held by the major industrial states in Tokyo.

Third, President Carter implied "excluding" U.S. intervention in the gulf when he reminded the American people that the United States has not yet healed the wounds it sustained during the Vietnam war.

In light of these observations, one can say that President Carter has not joined, "in public at any rate," the clique among his aides who brandish the stick and that he is inclined toward moderation and objectivity. The limited blame he addressed to the oil-producing countries has beem met with open criticism by the Soviet Union. The moderation which marked President Carter's speeches, however, and his avoidance of making threats of direct intervention in the gulf does not mean that the possibilities of intervention "by proxy" in this area are excluded. There has been nothing to disprove the preparations for a strategic alliance between Egypt and Israel so that they can carry out the role of policeman in the region. On the contrary, there are new indications that confirm this, among which is Dayan's suggestion that this alliance should become a nucleus for an "axis" in the area. Hence it should be said that the apparent moderation in Carter's speeches should not give rise to complacency in the Arab arena. One should also be aware that the U.S. President will not be able to claim he is "innocent" of the guilt of the blood of Jacob's son if an Egyptian-Israeli alliance should be established and exercise "proxy" threats against the region's oil-producing states, because the establishment of such an alliance cannot take place without the blessing of the U.S. Government, either in words or tacitly. In any case, the real U.S. stand toward the Arab oil-producing states will be determined by actions and not by words. If it is confirmed that the Egyptian-Israeli alliance is going ahead, then this will mean that President Carter has opted to give the dagger to his agents so that they can carry out the act while he appears to cover his hands with silk gloves.

SHAM'UN, AL-JUMAYYIL COMMENT ON NEW GOVERNMENT

NC161836 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 16 Jul 79 NC

[Excerpts] The first reaction to the formation of the new government came from former President Camille Sham'un. He said: I find this government a balanced one. Among the ministers are some who were able to complete effective projects in the past. Today Lebanon direly needs to restore its telephone, telex and postal contacts abroad and to base its economy and financial affairs on sound foundations in the wake of the destruction that has befallen it in the past few years.

I hope this government will be able to create an atmosphere of tranquillity in anticipation of the time when the big problem will be dealt with. The failure to solve the problem--such as the alien troops stationed in Lebanon and the political and constitutional future of the country--is paralyzing Lebanon.

This afternoon, Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil commented on the formation of the new government by saying: Regardless of names and persons, we find that the method by which the government is formed is still the method of compromises and settlements at the expense of Lebanon's interests. Al-Jumayyil added that the previous government was a transitional one, which was to have paved the way for a government capable of governing. Now, after 2 and 1/2 years, we come out with another transitional government, as if we were striving to take the country and its government backward instead of forward.

Perhaps one of the problems that has plagued the previous government was embodied in those who were striving to govern in its name, over its head and behind its back. Therefore, that government was neither able to govern nor to create the right atmosphere for the formation of a government capable of governing.

THREAT REPORTED AGAINST TURKISH EMBASSY IN BEIRUT

NC161756 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 1715 GMT 16 Jul 79 NC

[Text] In Beirut, persons belonging to the "Eagles of the Palestinian Revolution" contacted the Turkish Embassy and threatened embassy personnel [with reprisals] should their colleagues who are interned in Ankara come to any harm.

The Turkish ambassador in Lebanon immediately contacted the PLO. Later, a guard of the [Palestinian] armed struggle was posted around the Turkish Embassy.

MUFTI KHALIL RETURNS FROM SOVIET UNION

NC161253 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 16 Jul 79 NC

[Excerpt] His eminence the mufti of the Lebanese Republic, Shaykh Hasan Khalil, returned to Beirut at noon today at the conclusion of a 2-week visit to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the mufti of the Soviet states, (Diya' ad-Din Babakhanoff).

Speaking about the outcome of his visit, his eminence said at the airport: [Begin recording] I said when I left Lebanon about 2 weeks ago that I was going to the Soviet Union at the invitation of the head of the religious department, his eminence the mufti, Shaykh (Diya' ad-Din Babakhanoff). During this visit I had the opportunity to take part in a conference held on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the publication of the first issue of MUSLIMS magazine [AL-MUZLIMUN] in the eastern Soviet Union. This conference was a good opportunity for fruitful and effective meetings with many of our brothers in the Arab and Muslim states and many of our brother Muslims in the eastern Soviet Union.

The conference was also a good opportunity for us to hear our brother Muslims in the Soviet Union express their positive positions on the Arab issue, particularly the issues of Lebanon and Palestine. They displayed--and this is what we positively and effectively felt--unprecedented zeal on these issues, particularly the issue of Lebanon. We were very impressed by their positive attitude on the issues of Lebanon and Palestine. [end recording]

RIGHTISTS SHELL TYRE; ISRAELI PLANES OVERFLY SOUTH

JN161641 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1622 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Beirut, 16 July--The coastal town of Tyre was the target of intermittent artillery bombardment from rightist militia positions in the border strip this afternoon.

The rightist artillery bombardment--accompanied by provocative sorties by the Zionist air force over Tyre and several other villages in the central sector of southern Lebanon--caused heavy damage to several houses. No deaths have been reported.

The INA correspondent in southern Lebanon reports that the joint forces returned the rightists' fire. The joint forces also opened antiaircraft fire on the Zionist warplanes, forcing them to flee from Lebanese airspace.

BEIRUT RADIO REPORTS UNIFIL SOLDIER KILLED IN SOUTH

NC161730 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 16 Jul 79 NC

[16 July statement by UNIFIL Command in An-Naqurah]

[Text] This morning a Fijian soldier belonging to An-Naqurah UNIFIL was killed. The soldier, who was called (Winietto), was doing morning exercises when an armed civilian shot him at 0930. He was subsequently transferred by a Norwegian helicopter to the Norwegian hospital in An-Naqurah. However, he died upon arrival at the hospital at 1004.

This is the 27th casualty involving elements of the UN forces in Lebanon. Investigations are already in progress.

AL-ASAD INFORMED IN ADVANCE OF AL-BAKR'S RESIGNATION

JN162234 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Excerpts] Iraqi President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr delivered a speech tonight on the 11th anniversary of the 17 July Revolution. His Excellency President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr had informed His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad of his decision to retire in a message which 'Adnan Husayn, Iraqi Revolutionary Command Council member and planning minister, conveyed to his excellency this afternoon.

In his message, President al-Bakr stressed the importance of continuing the march toward unity between fraternal Syria and Iraq. He expressed profound optimism that this march will realize the Arab nation's objectives.

MALTESE PRIME MINISTER MINTOFF ARRIVES IN DAMASCUS

JN161635 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] At 1600 today Maltese Prime Minister Dom Mintoff arrived in Damascus from Jidda on a visit of several days to Syria. He was received at Damascus International Airport by Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi and Deputy Prime Minister for Service Affairs Fahmi al-Yusufi.

Meeting With Al-Halabi

JN161954 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Prime Minister Muhammad 'Ali al-Halabi received Maltese Prime Minister Dom Mintoff at 1630 today. The two sides discussed issues of mutual interest, the possibilities of developing bilateral relations and expanding cooperation, and the role played by the peoples and countries of the Mediterranean basin in forming a unified position on issues that influence their interests.

Dom Mintoff expressed his country's appreciation of Syria's policy under President Hafiz al-Asad, which aims at liberating the occupied Arab territories, protecting the Palestinian people's national rights and establishing a basis for just peace in the area.

ALGERIA

14 JUL PRESS ON POLISARIO'S DECISION TO BREAK CEASE-FIRE

LD141934 Algiers APS in English 1415 GMT 14 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Algiers, 14 Jul (APS)--"The dialogue broke off one year after the cease-fire with Mauritania, decided by the Popular Front for the Liberation of as-Saguia al-Hamra and Rio de Oro (POLISARIO)," the ALGERIAN NEWS AGENCY (APS) writes today in a commentary entitled "The Rupture" devoted to POLISARIO's decision to break the cease-fire with Mauritania.

"The event reveals two important facts: On one hand, it recalls the unilateral initiative. a positive one, emerging from a revolutionary realism, of which some wanted to limit its compass; and on the other hand, it proves that others have always used it on purpose to torpedo the peace process.

"This POLISARIO decision to break cease-fire does not exclude its permanently reasserted will to set up peace," APS added. Thus, the Saharan position towards those who tend to throw the settlement of the problem into confusion is without any ambiguity.

"This rupture is, as the Saharan foreign minister declared in Monrovia, a consequence of the Mauritanian's attitude which did not positively respond to the peace process launched by POLISARIO one year ago," the national daily EL MOUDJAHID writes.

"The Mauritanian delays constituted a way to spread confusion, and to escape from its real responsibilities in the solution of the Western Sahara problem. In acting so, the Mauritanian leaders wanted to minimise the unilateral cease-fire compass, instead of looking for ways and means to get their country out of the Saharan imbroglio," EL MOUDJAHID added.

"One year is a sufficient delay to put an end to all hesitations. At the end of this year, POLISARIO is obliged to break the dialogue with the Mauritanian leaders. Through this rupture, POLISARIO shows to the international opinion that the cease-fire initiative was taken only on the Saharan side, which gave proof of comprehension and willingness in launching a peace process in the region," the western Algeria's daily EL-JOUMHOURIA today writes.

"The Saharan issue, as the Algerian foreign minister declared in Monrovia, remains for Algeria a problem of decolonization, and Algeria, which is not animated with any bad intention, will never reconsider its principles. The dialogue is still between POLISARIO and those who have occupied its territory," EL-JOUMHOURIA concluded.

EL MOUDJAHID ON TIES WITH SYRIA, SYRIAN-IRAQI UNITY

LD141541 Algiers EL MOUDJAHID in French 3 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[A. Zouied editorial: "Identity of Destiny"]

[Text] Engaged in a series of reforms at all levels designed to fulfill the desires of the Syrian people and the objectives of the Ba'th revolution, Syria has now made a complete break with the expedients, utopian ideas and upheavals which have affected it periodically since 1946.

But even though its political stability, combined with increasing economic prosperity, exasperates the regime's enemies, the Ramadan War has only confirmed its regional and international importance.

Since they followed the Golan Heights exploits the Algerian people have been aware of the price paid in blood by a Syria determined to liberate its occupied territories regardless of the cost.

Nor can there be any doubts about its resolve to participate, in accordance with its capabilities, and using any material and moral means it has, in the struggle for the liberation of occupied Arab territories and in the recovery by the Palestinian people of their homeland and their right to freedom and dignity. As president Hafiz al-Asad stated at the time of the Arab summit in Algiers: "Ours is a just cause but there can be no justice without struggle, effort and sacrifice."

Our two countries have consistently supported just causes throughout the world and forces which have been waging a struggle with a view to liquidating any form of monopoly and exploitation and establishing a new world order in which cooperation and mutual respect among states would prevail, since it must be admitted that the salvation of the Arab nation is dependent on unity founded on an authentic and sound basis worthy of its past and consistent with the imperatives of its present situation and its future.

By announcing very recently their decision to create a joint political command with a view to achieving constitutional and institutional unity between the two countries, Iraq and Syria have certainly taken a big step forward in this direction.

This is a pan-Arab retaliatory measure against As-Sadat's betrayal and conspiracy, the Zionist challenge and objectives and the criminal plots which are being hatched against the Arab nation in general and the Palestinian cause in particular.

By insuring increased solidarity in Arab ranks this agreement contributes to Lebanon's security and the consolidation of the battlefield's northern front. The strategic equation whereby Egypt is allededly the essential factor in the strategic balance will lose all credibility.

Far from making the future of Iraq and Syria uncertain, this unity agreement, which it has taken a long time to plan, has implications which will strike firm and decisive blows against the enemy. There can be no doubt that the Arab nation will win in this sphere. High-level fraternal relations exist between Algeria and Syria, relations rooted in the history of the two countries and deriving their strength from a common struggle aimed at insuring the triumph of the Arab nation's causes.

The fundamental leading role assumed by the two countries predisposes them toward the maintenance of permanent and direct links, meetings and continuous contacts with a view to assessing any developments in the situation prevailing in the Arab Mashriq.

The present phase demands increased coordination of efforts to face up to the consequences of As-Sadat's capitulation, as they clearly appear to any observer, and to effectively thwart plans aimed at including the Arab world in a zone of imperialist penetration of which the June 1967 war of aggression constitutes the most odious episode. In this respect the talks which will take place between Presidents Chadli Bendjedid and Hafiz al-Asad will certainly be conclusive and decisive.

As for major world problems, Syria and Algeria rightly desire to consolidate and diversify their bilateral cooperation, whose quality is the corollary of the identity of their destiny.

The visits which Higher Education and Scientific Research Minister Berahi and Trade Minister Abdelghani Akbi have recently paid to Damascus have helped to illustrate the dynamics of a cooperation extended to all economic, trade and cultural spheres and have led to the signing of two agreements providing for an increase in cultural and trade exchanges between the two countries.

As for the magnitude and intensity of efforts made both at the level of relations between the Ba'th Party and the National Liberation Front Party and at the level of the two parliaments (the National People's Assembly and the Syrian People's Council), there can be no doubt that they are consistent with the desires of our two fraternal peoples and have set a seal on the attachment of the two countries' political leaderships to the resolutions adopted at the rejection and steadfastness front's summits.

BRIEFS

OIL ACCORD WITH SFRY --Algiers, 8 Jul (APS)--An agreement for joint research and exploitation of liquid hydrocarbons was signed here yesterday between the Algerian national company Sonatrach and the Yugoslav Naftags. The contract concerns areas near Touggourt and Garet Tesselit, i.e., a surface of 2,000 square kilometers. The accord was signed by Algerian Energy Minister Belkacem Nabi and Naftags chairman, Mr Senk. [Text] [Algiers APS in English 1525 GMT 8 Jul 79 LD]

MOROCCO

HASSAN CANCELS PLANS TO ATTEND OAU SUMMIT

LD162240 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] We have learned from the Ministry of [words indistinct] that His Majesty King Hassan II has changed his mind regarding the visit he was going to pay to Monrovia to attend the conference of the African states' kings and presidents.

His Majesty will be represented at this conference by M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs and cooperation.

SUDAN

INFORMATION MINISTER INTERVIEWED BY QNA

JN141759 Doha QNA in Arabic 1245 GMT 14 Jul 79 JN

[Excerpts] Doha, 14 July--Sudanese Culture and Information Minister 'Ali Muhammad Shummu has reaffirmed that Sudan welcomes any meeting at the summit or any other level held within the framework of Arab solidarity to serve the goals of the Arab nation and to achieve its [word indistinct].

He said that Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri is prepared to make positive efforts in this regard so as to put an end to Arab differences and bring the various views closer together.

Shummu blamed certain Arab newspapers and information media for deliberately distorting Sudan's position on current Arab developments and publishing fabrications about this position. He said that Sudan's real position is expressed by the official statements by Sudanese officials and can be known through the usual diplomatic methods.

He added: We do not want others to define their stands toward Sudan in light of what is published by certain newspapers or broadcast by certain radios and information media.

In an exclusive interivew with QNA, 'Ali Shummu called on Arab journalists and the leaders of Arab media to meet at the pan-Arab level so as to agree on a unified information strategy based on objectivity and facts so as to deal with Arab issues, above all the Palestinian question.

Referring to what was published by an Arab newspaper a few days ago about clashes between [words indistinct], 'Ali Shummu said [words indistinct] the publication of such a fabricated report before ascertaining its truth and accuracy. He said that this report confirms the bad intentions of those who circulated it. He stressed that the discussion of such sensitive issues should stem from a sense of responsibility "because Sudan is an Arab state that is carrying out its national duties in the best possible manner. Sudan's stand should not be a target of distortion and gloating. This is an extremely regrettable matter."

The Sudanese culture and information minister said that there are certain Arab information media that are seeking to distort Sudan's position on pan-Arab issues and to create confusion about this stand.

Answering a question about the Moroccan-Algerian dispute over the Western Sahara and the OAU stand on this issue--in view of the fact that Sudanese President Ja'far Numayri is current OAU chairman--'Ali Shummu said that President Numayri will submit to the OAU summit conference meeting in Monrovia this month a report on the task of the OAU arbitration committee, which he chaired, to mediate between Morocco and Algeria in resolving this dispute.

In this regard Shummu said that Sudan will propose to the Monrovia conference a specific plan to set up an OAU body that will have the power to resolve disputes among OAU member states.

Referring to the campaign launched by Western media against OPEC, the Sudanese culture and information minister expressed his great surprise that this campaign should concentrate on the Arab oil producing states alone whereas OPEC includes many other Asian, African and Latin American states. OPEC decisions are adopted unanimously by all its members, he said.

Speaking about domestic issues in Sudan, 'Ali Shummu revealed the truth about recent reports on the discovery of a coup attempt in southern Sudan, asserting that the affair did not reach the extent of a coup attempt. He said that it all started when the authorities uncovered a letter from (Samuel Arrow), who used to be vice president of the present Executive Assembly in southern Sudan and a Sudanese Socialist Union Political Bureau member, to As-Sadiq al-Mahdi, one of the prominent opposition leaders and a former Sudanese prime minister. In his letter, (Arrow) proposed the revival of the old seccessionist party in southern Sudan--the Sudan African National Union--which was dissolved when autonomy for the south came into effect. (Arrow) suggested that political power in the country be seized by infiltrating political organizations from the rank-and-file to the highest level. He also suggested infiltrating the Socialist Union National Congress scheduled to be held in January 1980. This would be achieved by (Arrow) and antigovernment elements nominating themselves for leading positions in these organizations.

Shummu said that (Samuel Arrow) wrote this letter--which was not received by Al-Mahdi--when a serious quarrel broke out between him and Joseph Lago, president of the Executive Council in southern Sudan, who relieved (Arrow) of his post in the regional government in southern Sudan and recommended his dismissal from the Political Bureau.

The Sudanese culture and information minister stressed that As-Sadiq al-Mahdi does not believe at all in what (Samuel Arrow) tried to achieve. He said that (Arrow) will be put on trial soon.

Referring to reports about As-Sadiq al-Mahdi's return to Sudan in accordance with the policy of national unity, Culture and Information Minister Shummu said that there is only one major point of difference on foreign policy between the Sudanese Government and As-Sadiq al-Mahdi, and that is that Al-Mahdi wants Sudan to sever its relations with Egypt, whereas we believe that for objective reasons this is not necessary.

EMBASSIES TO BE OPENED IN SPAIN, NETHERLANDS

JN141509 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1410 GMT 14 Jul 79 JN

[Text] Khartoum, 14 July--Hashim 'Uthman, Sudanese Foreign Ministry under secretary, has informed the Spanish ambassador in Khartoum of President Numayri's decision to open a resident embassy in Madrid. The under secretary also conveyed to the Netherlands charge d'affaires in Khartoum the president's decision to open a resident embassy in The Hague.

This took place today when the under secretary received the two officials separately. Hashim 'Uthman said that Sudan seeks to condolidate its diplomatic presence in those parts of Western Europe where Sudan maintains economic, cultural and technical relations.

WESTERN SAHARA

FORCES ATTACK POSITION IN SOUTHEAST MOROCCO

LD151222 Algiers APS in English 1013 GMT 15 Jul 79 LD

[Text] SDAR (Liberated territories), 15 Jul (APS)--Fighters of the Saharan Popular Liberation Army invested [as received] yesterday the locality of Oum Lahsene located in southeastern Morocco. The Saharan defence minister indicated today in a communique quoted by the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (SDAR)'s national radio.

After a several hour fighting, the Saharan patriots occupied the whole of the spot for more than five hours and destroyed many administrative buildings and military installations. Heavy damages and casualties on Moroccan troops are also reported.

FURTHER DETAILS OF DAYAN PROPOSAL TO CABINET REPORTED

TA161611 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jul 79 pp 1, 2 TA

[By 'Uzi Benziman]

[Excerpt] Yesterday the Cabinet decided to accept Foreign Minister Dayan's proposal to hold a discussion about the situation in the Middle East following the changes in the region since the signing of the Camp David agreements. The foreign minister raised the proposal at the Cabinet meeting when he made several comments on Prime Minister Begin's report about his talks with As-Sadat. One of Dayan's observations included a statement that the government's position on Jerusalem lacks a claim to Israeli sovereignty over East Jerusalem.

The foreign minister said in the Cabinet yesterday that when the Camp David agreements, which are the basis for the peace treaty with Egypt, were signed a different situation prevailed in the Middle East. The eastern front has been strengthened since then and Iraq aspires to lead it. Egypt has problems with Libya and the United States is strengthening Egypt by supplying it with modern arms. In Dayan's opinion the new situation should be considered and the tendency should be to create a group of countries friendly to the United States that will be a substitute for Washington's reliance on Iran and Saudi Arabia. Dayan further said that the possibility of placing the operation of the Sinai airfields in U.S. hands should be seriously discussed.

Dayan wanted to urge the government to consider the possibility of creating a group of countries with Egypt and Israel at the center that will serve as an anchor for U.S. interests in the Middle East. In his opinion aiming at such an objective justifies and requires the government's consideration. This may also reinforce a school of thought within the U.S. administration which supports this but which is not adequately influential for the time being. The official Washington policy still views Saudi Arabia, among others, as an ally that should be appeased by adopting an approach toward the Palestinian problem which is unsatisfactory to Israel.

Regarding Mr Begin's report on his remarks to As-Sadat on the Jerusalem issue (on the basis of which the Knesset decided to extend Israeli law to East Jerusalem) Dayan remarked that the public Israeli position does not claim sovereignty over East Jerusalem. Dayan noted that Israel claims that Jerusalem is its capital and Israel will not agree to the partition of Jerusalem, but this does not constitute a claim of sovereignty over the whole city. Reacting to this the prime minister remarked that since Israel extended its jurisdiction, law and administration to East Jerusalem it has thus also extended its sovereignty to this part of the city, and Dayan said that the prime minister's remarks were acceptable to him.

The exchange of remarks on this matter followed Begin's report to the ministers that As-Sadat also asked him to find a solution to the Jerusalem problem, saying he has a proposal that will satisfy the needs of all elements involved and will not affect the unity of the city. Begin's answer to As-Sadat was that East Jerusalem was annexed to Israel according to the Knesset's decision.

Cabinet members, who were asked by the HA'ARETZ correspondent yesterday to explain Dayan's comment on this issue, could not say whether his intention was to bring to the government's attention a fault in the government's position--the fault is not publicly claiming sovereignty over East Jerusalem--or whether he wanted to hint that there is room to find a solution that may also be acceptable to the Arab world under the formula of extending the jurisdiction, law and administration to East Jerusalem.

[Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 16 Jul p 1 TA in its report on yesterday's Cabinet meeting and Dayan's remarks notes that: "Foreign Ministry sources totally denied" the report on Dayan's proposal regarding the operation of the Sinai airfields]

MODA'I TESTIFIES ON 'VERBAL' EGYPTIAN OIL PROMISE

TA162016 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 16 Jul 79 TA

[Text] Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee Chairman Moshe Arens said that today the energy problem is the greatest danger likely to threaten Israel's security. MK Arens said that today the energy problem is the greatest danger likely to threaten Israel's security. MK Arens made the statement following a discussion in the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee on the subject of energy.

Energy Minister Yizhaq Moda'i told the committee that President as-Sadat's promise to Prime Minister Begin to continue supplying oil to Israel from the 'Alma oilfield in a general, verbal promise not secured in any written document.

The Foreign Affairs and Security Committee chairman demanded that the government request from Egypt a contract that would explicitly guarantee the supply of oil from the 'Alma oilfield after its evacuation in November. He also proposed that Israel immediately start constructing a nuclear powerstation, and said we had the knowhow and the means to build such powerstations.

The energy minister complained to the committee that the energy saving plan he had proposed to the Cabinet has been delayed month after month without the Cabinet reaching a decision. He said that after the withdrawal from the Sinai oilfields, Israel would depend on foreign sources to supply 98 percent of its fuel.

17 JUL PRESS ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S ENERGY PROPOSALS

TA170729 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 17 Jul 79 TA

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] HA'ARETZ says that the impression given on the morrow of the presentation of Carter's plan is that the U.S. people are prepared to support it. Not only does Carter's own future depend on the degree of his success in justifying and making good use of the support he is being given, the chances of the free world being able to regain its political and economic independence are also at stake here.

DAVAR says that the economic program Carter hopes to have the U.S. people adopt must also spur energy-economizing steps here. In view of President Carter's call to U.S. citizens to give up the use of their cars at least once a week, the campaign conducted against the carless day in Israel is surprising, even if its primary value is only psychological and its economic effect minimal.

'AL HAMISHMAR says our problems are no less grave than those of the United States.

However, for the time being we have neither self-criticism of the leadership nor bold long-range plans in the economic sphere. Things go on as usual here. The United States is apparently relied upon without understanding that events there will have a most serious effect on us as well.

HATZOFE writes that blaming the OPEC countries for the severity of the U.S. problems has political consequences. The U.S. people may increasingly recognize the exploitation of the Arab oil magnates who become rich without toil or efforts at the expense of large and industrialized countries. The U.S. democracy can win if it is entirely mobilized to rescue the United States from dependence on imports. President Carter's plan demanding less consumption and more production will be tested during its implementation.

HAMODI'A believes it is possible to say that the U.S. President has awoken too late and what he offers is too little. The period of time that would have to elapse before the United States could free itself from dependence on the feudal desert shaykhs is longer than it can bear. Mr Carter could have better achieved the goal if he had used firmer means. Forces need not be landed in the oilfields. It would suffice if the President had made a hint to the effect that most of the OPEC countries are dependent on the import of vital foods from the United States no less than the United States is dependent on oil imports.

OMER writes that it is very important that all our science centers, especially the Weizman Institute, intensively look for new energy sources. It seems that solar energy could be of great value. If the Israeli scientist helps solve the worldwide problem, this will not only bring us prestige but will also be of primary political importance.

BEN-ELISAR COMMENTS ON ALEXANDRIA SUMMIT

TA151452 Jerusalem POST in English 15 Jul 79 pp 1, 2 TA

[By David Landau]

[Text] The As-Sadat-Begin joint pronouncement in Alexandria last week supporting the "territorial integrity" of Lebanon should be seen primarily as directed at Syria, according to Premier Menahem Begin's top aide, Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, "It means that both Israel and Egypt want the Syrian Army to leave Lebanon," Ben-Elisar told the Jerusalem POST in an interview.

Ben-Elisar, director-general of the prime minister's office and the most senior official to accompany Begin to the summit with President Anwar as-Sadat in Alexandria, also said that the two leaders had spent a good deal of their time discussing broad strategic issues pertaining to this region. "That doesn't necessarily imply joint or common military intentions," the aide cautioned. But he noted that the two men had surveyed the strategic situation, and had many coinciding interests, "not as university professors" but as the leaders of their countries.

The Lebanon pronouncement, said Ben-Elisar, though specifying "territorial integrity," had clearly implied political integrity and sovereignty too. "The Syrians will have to take this into account in their calculations."

It would be "too far-reaching," Ben-Elisar said, to read into the pronouncement an effective Egyptian pledge to stand aside should Israel and Syria become embroiled militarily over Syria's actions in Lebanon (though some Israeli analysts do believe that Egypt would indeed not intervene in that circumstance).

The pronouncement was also intended "to be heard by the United States," Ben-Elisar continued. "Not that the United States is against the integrity of Lebanon, of course. But sometimes one has the feeling that they are getting used to the Syrian presence there."

Begin's aide acknowledged that the pronouncement was also designed to counter charges and suspicions in the Arab world, and even in Egypt, that Israel's long-range policy goal was the partition of Lebanon into separate Christian and Muslim entities. The prime minister had been concerned, said Ben-Elisar, "to clarify our policy."

On the nature of the two leaders' strategic survey, Ben-Elisar was suitably discreet and mysterious (as befits a former master-spy), not discouraging speculation, but neither saying anything to encourage any specific flights of fancy.

"If indeed as you surmise"--and he did not demur at these surmises--"the two of them discussed Bahrain and Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia, and the Straits of Hormuz, then that means first and foremost that the Israel-Egypt peace is becoming a new political reality in the area. In addition, it is a demonstration of the growing friendship and candour between them.

"This was, as I predicted it would be, the first really genuine summit between Begin and As-Sadat, in that it was not linked to any particular issue in the peace process. Thus they were relaxed and could embark on a broad 'tour d'horizon.' It was their first really deep and broad discussion of this type."

Ben-Elisar is uncomfortable with talk of an evolving "axis," or of Egypt and Israel being the "bastions" of Western interests in this area. The two leaders were reviewing their own strategic interests, he said, not those of other powers. And in the course of that review, they had found "that there is a large measure of agreement."

But he noted that a commonality of strategic interests "does not necessarily imply military intentions."

Other points made by Ben-Elisar:

--Oil: The two leaders' resolution of the oil negotiations will mean that on November 27, the day after Israel hands back the 'Alma fields, Israeli tankers will be able to continue loading the 'Alma oil and transporting it to Israel, with Israel paying Egypt the world-market price.

--Normalization: Ben-Elisar has consistently predicted, ever since the peace treaty was signed in March, that Cairo would stick to the normalization timetable annexed to the treaty, with only minor departures from it in order to accelerate the process. Current events are proving him right: Tourist traffic, for instance, is still only a trickle. Ben-Elisar made it clear that he does not expect any sudden change following the Alexandria summit. Egypt's guiding principle will still be a gradual build-up toward the full-normalization date, in January.

Ben-Elisar himself was busy during the summit arranging some of the "minor departures" from the normalization timetable that have been agreed upon, including the imminent visits to Cairo of manufacturers association chief Avraham Shavit and Histadrut Secretary-General Yeruham Meshel.

He also discussed with high Egyptian officials "long-term joint economic projects," which he was not prepared, however, to describe in any detail at all.

--Autonomy: The autonomy negotiations were not discussed at any great length, beyond mutual expressions of satisfaction at their present pace. As-Sadat did, however, make a point of praising Israel's chief negotiator, Dr Yosef Burg, whom he found to be "very intelligent."

--Settlements: Begin gave As-Sadat a "very thorough" exposition of the Israeli view, and, while As-Sadat clearly rejected it, there was "no quarrelling."

Ben-Elisar recalled with obvious pleasure how the Alexandria crowds had seemed to recognize him (he toured the city while heading Israel's team to the Mena House talks of December 1977). Some had shouted "Eliyahu, Eliyahu."

Ben-Elisar is regarded as a possible choice as Israel's first ambassador to Egypt, due to be appointed in January. His closeness to Begin would plainly be regarded in Cairo as a major asset.

He has built up an especially cordial relationship with As-Sadat's chef de cabinet, Hasan Kamal, who is said to be a rising force within the Egyptian power structure (he was recently elected to parliament, which many saw as presaging a ministerial appointment). If Kamal became foreign minister, say some observers in Jerusalem, Ben-Elisar would become Israel's likely choice as ambassador.

But many leading figures in Egyptian political circles still refer to (former Labor Foreign Minister) Abba Eban as their own preference as Israel's envoy. They cite Eban's knowledge of Arabic, his familiarity with Egypt and its cultures, his diplomatic fame, and the fact that his wife is Egyptian born, as making him uniquely suited for the job.

BURG DISCUSSES WORK TEAMS WITH EGYPT'S KHALIL

TA161308 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 16 Jul 79 p 1 TA

[By HA'ARETZ political correspondent]

[Text] Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg had a telephone conversation yesterday with Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil and discussed the functioning of the Israeli-Egyptian working groups that are to deal with the delineation of the powers of the autonomy committee in regard to both procedural issues pertaining to the formation of the autonomy council and to the definition of its powers.

The two will hold another telephone conversation tomorrow. The working groups will begin their talks either at the end of this week or at the beginning of next week. The U.S. representative on these working committees will be James Leonard. Therefore, the two groups will not be able to meet at the same time. The Israeli team for the working committee will be formed once it is finally clear what the Egyptian approach to this matter is. So far, it has not been made completely clear whether the Egyptians intend to send officials only to work on these teams, or whether these teams will also include a personality of ministerial rank.

ACTIVITIES OF U.S. OFFICIALS IN JERUSALEM EXAMINED

TA170645 Jerusalem POST in English 17 Jul 79 p 3 TA

["Background Report" by David Landau]

[Text] International law prohibits U.S. consular officials in Jerusalem from engaging in political activity on the West Bank, in the view of Israeli legal sources.

But political sources in Jerusalem advise against "making an issue" of these legal restrictions because many countries, Israel among them, tend to stray beyond the strict letter of the international conventions in their diplomatic and consular work in free, Western societies.

"To throw the rule-book at the United States would be madness for us," one well-placed source here observed in private conversation. "The line between normal intercourse and interference in the affairs of the receiving state is often very thin in diplomatic work. The Israeli Embassy in Washington, for instance, could easily be accused on occasion of crossing it...."

The issue of U.S. consular activities on the West Bank was raised most recently last week by Interior Minister and chief autonomy negotiator Yosef Burg, who sharply criticized Washington at a press conference.

Legal sources in Jerusalem point out that the scope of acceptable activities laid down for consulates is much narrower than that pertaining to embassies. The Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 1963 lists categories of functions pertaining to consulates which include mainly economic and cultural relations with the receiving country, and assistance to nationals of the sending country.

There is, however, a seemingly broad catch-all category--article 5 (M)--which reads: "Performing any other functions entrusted to a consular post by the sending state which are not prohibited by the laws or regulations of the receiving state." This could be construed as embracing political work. But the Israeli legal sources argued that the general context of article 5 makes it clear that the "any other functions" referred to are not intended to include political functions, but rather any technical functions omitted from the list of economic and cultural activities provided in the article.

"The general tenor of the entire convention," one legal source said, "is that the consul does not deal with political affairs."

Israel has another legal argument against the U.S. consular officers stationed in Jerusalem undertaking political work on the West Bank: the argument that the West Bank is not connected to Jerusalem under Israeli law. (Israel unilaterally annexed East Jerusalem after the Six Day War. The consulates there, most of them established before the state was founded, are nominally responsible for Jerusalem only, not for the West Bank.)

(There have been allegations that U.S. consular officers, in seeking to draw West Bank leaders into the peace process, have held out the prospect of greater strides towards political independence once the autonomous council is set up. U.S. sources deny that any American officials stray beyond the terms of the Camp David framework in their conversations.)

Israeli legal sources acknowledged that Israel would have much less ground for objection if the same ostensibly political activities were being engaged in by diplomats attached to the U.S. Embassy in Tel Aviv.

As diplomats, rather than consuls, their ambit of activity would be wider. And as members of the embassy accredited to Israel their right to conduct the normal diplomatic work of information-garnering in Israel-occupied territories could hardly be challenged.

For this reason, as well as for the possible boomerang effect upon Israeli legations abroad, it seems that Jerusalem does not intend to press the point too strongly--at this time at least--with the U.S. Government.

ROMANIAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION DEPARTS 13 JUL

TA131328 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 13 Jul 79 TA

[Text] A high-level Romanian trade delegation has just concluded their 9-day visit to Israel. Before leaving today, they signed a protocol aimed at increasing trade between the two countries. Neil Sandler reports [begin recording]:

[Sandler] Before departing this morning, the delegation met with Prime Minister Begin, who briefed the Romanian minister secretary of state at the Ministry of Foreign Trade on his talks with President as-Sadat in Alexandria. The prime minister also mentioned the part played by Romanian President Ceausescu in the peace process, but the main time of the delegation's time was spent on economic and trade matters. Speaking at Ben-Gurion Airport, Israel's Minister of Industry, Commerce and Tourism Gid'on Pat sums up the visit.

[Pat] We reviewed the economic relations between our two countries in the past 2 years since the last meeting that was held here in Israel, and we have looked into the possibilities of increasing exports from Israel to Romania and, naturally, they, on their part, would like to see more importation of Romanian goods to Israel.

There is a gap at the present time, a disturbing gap as far as we are concerned, and maybe this year we will see Israeli exports of about $22 to $25 million but in exchange we will be buying from Romania something in the neighborhood of about $50 to $60 million. Naturally, we want to close this gap and I hope that the discussion that we had with the delegation will allow us to do so.

[Sandler] At present, Romania is the only Eastern European nation with diplomatic and trade relations with Israel, but Minister Pat expressed the hope that this would change in the not-so-distant future. [end recording]

EAST JERUSALEM ELECTRICITY COMPANY STRIKE INTENSIFIES

TA160858 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 16 Jul 79 TA

[Text] The strike by the employees of the Arab electricity company of East Jerusalem enters its 5th day today and, with the passing of time, is becoming a national issue of prime importance. Against the background of this strike, there were telephone threats a few days ago against the life of Mayor of Bethlehem Elyas Frayj, the chairman of the company's board of directors. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports:

Mayors of towns in Judaea and Samaria, workers' organizations, the clergy, editorial boards--who is not now involved in the strike at the East Jerusalem electricity company? The strike is entering its 5th day and no contact has yet been made between the management and the workers. The more days that pass, the more the nationalist voices increase. The primary reason and, in the view of many, the only excuse for the strike is being forgotten: matters of salaries and so on. Now they are speaking about the need to preserve the Arabism of the East Jerusalem electricity company.

Now they are speaking about a class struggle of exploited workers against a capitalist management. The immediate reason for the strike was the workers' demand for additions to wages, for holidays and for free supplies of electricity, but the company's management accuses external elements, including mayors, of inciting the workers so as to prevent the company from transferring the task of supplying electricity to the Jewish quarters, which up to now was its responsibility, to the Israeli electricity company.

The editorials in the Arab press are now calling for the company's Arabism to be preserved as a national matter of prime importance. In the street, the Arabs are making accusations about the betrayal of the company's management and, in this context, there are telephone threats against the life of Mayor of Bethlehem Elyas Frayj. The trade unions in Judaea and Samaria, which are under communist control, have entered the fray. I have learned from authoritative sources that the striking workers are getting financial backing in addition to practical aid from communist circles. The campaign has also been joined by the clergy. The preacher of Al-Aqsa Mosque, (Aqrama Sabri), spoke about the strike in a sermon he gave on Friday. By chance, just this morning the paper ASH-SHA'B carried 17 announcements of support for the strikers by workers' and nationalist organizations.

The strike by the 400 employees of the company has not yet harmed the supply of electricity to consumers. However, in view of the takeover of the extremists, the possibility of disruptions to the electricity supply cannot be dismissed and the Jerusalem municipality may demand that the government intervene if the dead end into which the company has put itself is not opened.

BETHLEHEM LANDOWNERS APPEAL TO SUPREME COURT

TA150848 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 15 Jul 79 p 2 TA

[Text] A fourth appeal within the last 2 weeks for an order nisi on the matter of seizure of lands whose ownership is claimed by inhabitants in Jerusalem was submitted on Friday to the Supreme Court in Jerusalem via lawyer Felicia Lenger.

The acting president of the Supreme Court, Moshe Landau, decided to transfer the decision to a group of three judges, but no date has yet been set for this.

The appellants are two inhabitants of (Am-Slomona) in Bethlehem, ('Ali Hadad 'Isa) and his relative (Mahmoud Muhammad 'Isa). They claim that a few days ago surveyors, accompanied by army and police officers, went onto a tract of land which their family has owned for many generations and began to take measurements. In their opinion, the authorities intend to seize this land--which they say they cultivate--for the purpose of establishing the Jewish town Efrat.

They are asking that an order nisi against the minister of defense and the governor of Bethlehem be issued for them to give reasons why they should not cease the seizure of the land "in contradiction of international law and the Geneva Charter." The ('Isa) family also wants an interim order forbidding the representatives of the authorities from taking any measurements or carrying out any other activities in the area until the end of the legal clarification of their appeal.

SPOKESMAN DENIES BAZARGAN, RIYAHI RESIGNATIONS

LD162028 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1930 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Dr Sadeq Tabataba'i, deputy prime minister for political affairs and the government spokesman, speaking about the rumored resignation of Prime Minister Mehdi Bazargan, told a PARS correspondent [words indistinct]. The prime minister spent today resting at his house as he was very tired, but current matters were brought to his home. As usual, he studied them and gave the necessary orders. Tomorrow he will (?return) to his office [words indistinct].

The news concerning the resignation of General Riyahi, minister of national defense [words indistinct] is also untrue. General Riyahi has also been present at the meetings of the Council of Ministers as well as in the relevant committees which meet in the prime minister's office. However, for the past few days, due to fatigue and illness, he has done his work at his home. Probably within the next few days he will also go back to his office.

TEHRAN REPORTS KHOMEYNI MEETINGS ON NATIONAL SITUATION

LD161232 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] At 1030 yesterday, Imam Khomeyni received Deputy Prime Minister and Government Spokesman Dr Sadeq Tabataba'i in Qom. The government spokesman briefed Imam Khomeyni on the issues discussed by the Council of Ministers and sought his views on various issues.

Following the meeting, the government spokesman spoke to reporters. He said that the guidelines and views expressed by Imam Khomeyni on various national issues would be raised with Prime Minister Bazargan, so that they can be discussed at the next meeting of the Council of Ministers.

The chairman of the board of directors and managing director of the NIOC, Nazih, met with Imam Khomeyni at noon today for 90 minutes. According to the government spokesman, who was also present at this meeting, Nazih reported to Imam Khomeyni on NIOC activities and the measures taken to purge the company. The question of making economies and carrying out welfare measures for workers, especially building houses for them, were of particular interest to Imam Khomeyni.

The recent events in Khuzestan and their relevance to events beyond Iranian borders, as well as efforts made by the security forces and the army with the cooperation of Revolutionary Guards to protect the oil installations in the south, including the continuation of oil production, export and refinery operations, were among the issues which were also discussed by Nazih, the government spokesman and Imam Khomeyni.

At the end of the meeting, a report on the political situation in the country was given to Imam Khomeyni, who issued the necessary guidelines and views on it.

KHOMEYNI ISSUES STATEMENT ON 17 JULY UNITY MARCH

LD161418 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Following the announcement that a unity march will be held Tuesday, 17 July, Imam Khomeyni has issued a statement, the text of which follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. To all the honorable and struggling people of Iran, may the Almighty help them. As you observe, the holy Islamic movement has, like a miracle, crumbled the walls of the palaces of the oppressors, brought victory to those who believe and sacrificed themselves over the satanic powers, and broken down the walls of oppression and colonialism. Now the opportunists on one side and the corruptors on the other are trying to pretend that the movement, since its victory, does not enjoy the overwhelming support of the nation. They are trying to make the unaware people indifferent to the revolution using this satanic conspiracy, and in their foolish minds are fishing in troubled waters.

Therefore, in order to prove our national unity, to reject untruth, to achieve what is right and to put an end to the lies and conspiracies provoked by those who oppose Islam and the holy Islamic movement, it has been decided that on Tuesday, 17 July, all persons and strata of society who are interested in Islam and the holy Koran, in the Islamic Republic and in the independence of the country should take part in the march so that those groups which oppose the Islamic revolution are exposed properly. In fact this Islamic and national maneuver is a display by the party of God of what is right against what is satanic. I pray to God for the grandeur of Islam and the Islamic nation. May God be with you and bless you all.

[Signed] Monday, 16 July. Ruhollah Musavi Khomeyni.

Ministers To Participate

LD161826 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Excerpt] The government spokesman announced today that on the order of the leader of the revolution, Imam Khomeyni, in order to prove the necessary unity and solidarity and to demonstrate the harmony between the nation and the government, the members of the Council of Ministers will also take part in tomorrow's unity march.

The organizers of the Unity Day march have issued their fourth announcement, as follows: The march in Tehran will take place tomorrow afternoon. This headquarters has organized no other march or other activity to take place before this March. [signed] The headquarters of the organizers of the Unity Day march.

The third announcement of the headquarters of the organizers of the Unity Day march had said: In his exalted name, there are certain hands at work which wish to deprive us of the benefit of unity. We must maintain our unity. Our slogan during the march on Tuesday, 17 July 1979, will be "Unity and Following the Guidance of Imam Khomeyni." We present our boundless thanks and greetings to all the organizations, parties, groups and societies which, by getting in touch with the headquarters of the organizers of the march throughout today have declared their solidarity with us.

Army Unity Day Message

LD161342 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The following message was issued by the Iranian Islamic Republic Army in connection with Unity Day:

In the name of God. Once again the imperialists, through their lackeys, are trying to create division in various parts of our country and sow discord among the Muslim people of Iran. One reads and hears of various plots in colorful leaflets and from different border areas. Discordant whispers have already started under the freedom provided by the Iranian Islamic revolution. However, the united and selfless Iranian people will resist these plots to the death.

Recognizing our responsibility and being fully aware of the situation at this moment, we the army, in response to Imam Khomeyni's call, decisively declare that material issues and group interests will not separate us from the nation in continuing the revolution. We declare that we are prepared with all our might to defend the glorious Iranian Islamic revolution and that we are ready to give any assistance and even do without our salary. We are ready to give our lives anywhere in Iran.

O imam, we officers, NCO's, soldiers and other personnel are collectively prepared to give our lives in any part of the country, having faith in God and enjoying the great and unending power of the nation. We are ready to shed our blood for the protection of Iran's territorial integrity before God and the Iranian people.

We warn all foreign agents and the lackeys of the Western and Eastern superpowers to cease their provocations against the Iranian Islamic revolution and not to try our patience and that of the Iranian nation. They must remember that every Iranian and the Iranian Islamic Republic Army are fully against returning to the dark period of the past. Consequently, we the Iranian Islamic Republic Army will take part in Tuesday's march with all our might in order to demonstrate once again our readiness to carry out the order of the leader of the revolution, Imam Khomeyni, and our unity with the Iranian people.

MOJAHEDIN LEADER SA'ADATI REFUSES TO ATTEND COURT

LD161908 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The following statement has been issued by the Tehran Islamic Revolutionary Court in connection with the trial of Mohammad Reza Sa'adati [a leader of the Mojahedin Islamic guerrilla organization], who has been arrested on charges of espionage:

Mr Mohammad Reza Sa'adati, contrary to a declaration by his organization that he was ready to attend a court hearing concerning charges against him, has stated that he will not attend the court. He has also refused to end his hunger strike, although his complete freedom has been insured and although an audience, his family and correspondents, have also been assembled, in accordance with a previous announcement. It is not clear why he has refused to attend the court or to end his hunger strike. Nevertheless, in order to give him a further opportunity to fully defend himself, the hearing will be postponed.

If he again refuses to be tried before the Iranian nation, he will be tried by the court in absentia in accordance with religious jurisprudence. The date for the hearing will be announced later.

[Signed] Islamic Revolutionary Court of Iran.

PARTY OPPOSES BASIS OF DRAFT CONSTITUTION

LD131408 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 13 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Today a meeting was held in the headquarters of the Revolutionary Movement of the Islamic People of Iran Party in order to discuss the draft constitution. During the meeting, which was attended by a large number of our compatriots, Mr Askari, one of the members of the Central Council of the party, gave a speech in which he discussed the draft constitution from the viewpoint of an order based on councils. He said: We believe that the draft constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran has been inspired by the former constitution of Iran, by European constitutions, and also by Islamic principles and standards. It also contains some new features. We believe that the present order should be overthrown, meaning that the constitution should first of all be inspired by popular innovations and initiatives and by the Islamic revolution, then by Islamic principles, and finally by the constitutions of other countries. On this basis, we believe that the separation of the three powers and their organization as set out in the draft constitution is not correct, meaning that we do not regard it as being Islamic and Iranian. We believe that the constitution can be based on councils and the five powers [villages, small towns, large towns, provinces and the country as a whole].

NATIONAL FRONT'S SHAYEGAN ON PRESIDENCY, CONSTITUTION

LD131357 Tehran AYANDEGAN in Persian 9 Jul 79 p 1, 2 LD

[PARS interview with Dr Reza Shayegan]

[Text] Dr Shayegan, a close associate of Dr Mosaddeq, and one of the leaders of the National Front of Iran, expressing his views on the constitution yesterday, said:

"An excess of power has been given to the president of the republic in the draft constitution, and this is dangerous for democracy."

Shayegan said: "The president of the republic should be more or less a ceremonial figure--a 'figurehead,' as they say abroad--while executive power should reside in the prime minister and the Council of Ministers, who are accountable to a parliament which can replace them." Dr Shayegan, speaking in an interview with PARS about the National Front, the exist of the Iran Nation Party from the front and on the subject of the constitution, said: "All those who wish to preserve democratic freedom should strive to insure that officials in charge of the affairs of state are accountable to a majlis [parliament] elected by the people and that they are unable to oppose in any practical way the wishes of the people."

On the necessity for the establishment of a constituent assembly, Dr Shayegan said: "If the constitution is for everyone, then everyone must participate in its compilation and in improving it, unless, as certain people believe, only a few, who cannot be dictated to, are suited to this task.

The section of the people that plays no part in drafting the constitution will reject its authenticity."

On the state of the National Front, Dr Shayegan said: Since the days following the revolution when I came to Iran, I have tried to consolidate the various groups within the National Front and its subsidiary offshoots, and although in the beginning I had hopes of doing this, this possibility decreases day by day. The many problems following the revolution, including the proliferation of centers of powers and the emergence of differences, many of which were unnecessary, have all played a part in this. The present condition of the National Front is in no way commensurate with its tradition and historical value, and I am most concerned at this."

Asked about the Iran Nation Party, the Guilds Association and the bazaar merchants leaving the National Front, Shayegan said: "As far as I know, the Guilds Association and the bazaar merchants have not left the party. Moreover, a number of guildsmen who supported the Iran Nation Party left that party when it left the National Front."

Shayegan noted that "In principle, I am not optimistic as regards the subsidiary parties in the National Front. Of course, I am speaking generally and not about any one group in particular."

AYATOLLAH MONTAZERI ISSUES STATEMENT ON MARIVAN INCIDENT

LD161338 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The following statement has been issued by His Great Eminence Ayatollah Montazeri:

In His exalted name. Muslim brothers and sisters: Once again the colonialist agents have attempted another conspiracy in our dear Kordestan. This conspiracy began with an armed attack by pseudoleftist elements on the haven of the Koran, the provincial city of Marivan, which was the base of the revolutionary guards of our Kurdish brothers. Undoubtedly the colonialist agents are not remaining idle during these crucial stages when the brave Muslim nation of Iran is compiling the constitution of the Islamic Republic. They are plotting everywhere, and as soon as the blood of our brothers in Sanandaj, Gonbad, Naqadeh and Khorramshahr is dry, other families in Marivan are mourning the death of their dear ones. Our Muslim Kurdish brothers should note that the establishment of the Islamic Republic, according to the life-saving rules of Islam, will be their best support, and the songs of deception which sing in their ears from left and right are intended to provoke them in the interest of our enemies.

In the past many political deals were made in violation of the characteristics and rights of our Kurdish brothers. What invaluable blood was spilled because of the provocations of the mercenaries of the deposed shah! Today, when the Islamic revolution has become victorious because of the sacrifices of the Muslim nation of Iran under the leadership of the great ulemas, especially His Great Eminence Ayatollah Khomeyni, the same dependent elements have changed their disguises, started plots causing brother to kill brother, and are putting barriers in the way of progress toward our revolutionary aims.

The fighting people of Iran know where these conspiracies originate and who are the main plotters.

The main aim of the enemy in provoking internal wars is to limit the revolution internally and to stop the Islamic movement from becoming universal. But I swear on the blood of the martyrs that the strong arm of resistance of our Kurdish brothers will nip any plot in the bud. I offer you my modest condolences on the martyrdom of the dear ones of Islam and pray to God to cut the hands of the colonialists of East and West from the Islamic countries. May God bless you and peace be upon you.

Marivan Reported Calm

LD161405 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1330 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The political and administrative assistant in the office of the governor general of Kordestan, who is also a member of the Sanandaj delegation negotiating in Marivan, spoke to a PARS correspondent at noon today. He said that an accurate report of the recent events in Marivan has been submitted to the interior minister, and the minister has been told there is no need to send any more Revolutionary Guards to Marivan.

Referring to the situation in Marivan, he said it is calm, citing the signing of a seven-point agreement between the hostile groups as proof that the situation is quiet.

ETTELA'AT QUOTES KHUZESTAN GOVERNOR ON RECENT EVENTS

JN162124 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1910 GMT 16 Jul 79 JN

[From the press review]

[Text] The evening newspaper ETTELA'AT carries the following headline on its front page: Madani Reveals the Facts About the Khorramshahr Events. Madani, who is the governor of Khuzestan, has made important statements lately on the recent Khuzestan events. He said: We will resist any disorder in Khuzestan . The disruptive elements and those who are responsible for the recent events are a few agents known to everyone. Our Arab brothers and sisters and the non-Arabs will fight them.

Regarding the prisoners [not further identified], the Khuzestan governor said: They are members of the so-called Black Wednesday group. I find no need to declare an emergency in Khorramshahr at present. If the crisis continues we will do so.

Regarding the alleged claims concerning the three islands in the Persian Gulf, Madani said: I have always said that we commit aggression against no one and we do not allow anyone to attack even an inch of our territories. The naval forces are up to the level of their responsibilities concerning these three islands.

Asked about the present capability of the naval forces to confront any possible aggression in the Persian Gulf, the governor of Khuzestan and commander of the naval forces said: Not only the naval forces, but also the ground and air forces are ready to carry out their sacred duties. We will not be satisfied with this readiness, but will attempt to reach a state of maximum alert and preparedness.

Concluding his statement, Madani referred to the Revolutionary Guards' discovery of an arms cache in which a number of machineguns and explosives from the USSR and Iraq were found. Four persons were arrested and charged with storing these arms.

KHAQANI COMPLAINS OF GOVERNMENT'S BROKEN PROMISES

LD131339 Tehran AYANDEGAN in Persian 11 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report on telegram from Ayatollah Shobeyr Khaqani to the Iranian prime minister]

[Text] Ayatollah Shobeyr Khaqani [Arab community leader in Iran], in a telegram addressed to the prime minister, warned that so far no effective steps have been taken to translate the true aims of the revolution into action, and it is unfortunate that without considering the aims of the Islamic revolution of Iran, the government has not only failed to fulfill its promises but has also chosen to maintain an inexplicable silence in regard to the failure to observe social justice and in regard to the current suppression of freedom.

The telegram reads: "The entire nation of Iran expected, and still expects, its chosen government to eliminate the economic problems of the country by means of proper planning for industry, particularly basic industry, commerce, development projects, and public welfare programs, and to expand these rapidly in order to prevent a wave of unemployment, from which springs corruption and vice in the community, and so that the community may advance towards independence and full economic justice. The only result we have seen so far is that of economic stagnation and an increase in the army of unemployed, which is responsible for the spread of social corruption. Moreover, on the basis of promises given by the leadership and the government, which conform to the right contained in the principles of the true religion of Islam, the people expect to participate officially in affairs relating to themselves and to attain individual and social freedoms, so that after half a century of dictatorship, repression and decision-making by one man under the overthrown regime, they may now partake of the benefits conferred by the social justice of the true religion of Islam and may be the masters of their own destiny. But your government is unfortunately disregarding the aims of the Islamic revolution of the Iranian nation, not only through your unfulfilled promises, but also through failure to observe social justice, and with respect to the current suppression of freedom, it has chosen to maintain an inexplicable silence.

"The failure to fulfill the promises previously made by the government has resulted in present inadequacies, and if this method, which goes against the principles of Islam, is continued, it will result in upheavals and the disintegration of the community."

AYANDEGAN ON KHORRAMSHAHR DEMONSTRATION SUPPORTING KHAQANI

LD131457 Tehran AYANDEGAN in Persian 11 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report on Khorramshahr demonstrations]

[Text] Over the last two days, thousands of people in Khorramshahr have been demonstrating and marching in support of Ayatollah Shobeyr Khaqani and in condemnation of Vice Admiral Madani and Sheykh Sadeq Khalkhali.

In the demonstration last Monday, those marching against Vice Admiral Madani and Sheykh Khalkhali shouted slogans through the streets of the city and gathered in the Masjed-e Ja'far Sadeq. The demonstrators on Monday announced 10 demands in a resolution.

In yesterday's demonstration also, thousands of supporters of Sheykh Khaqani, coming from Ahvaz, Abadan and Khorramshahr gathered in the Masjed-e Imam Ja'far Sadeq and began their march, shouting various slogans through the streets of the town. The slogans, in Arabic, were as follows: "We are Neither Separatists nor Terrorists"; "Iran is Our Home and Native Land"; "We Are Arabs--The Kurdish Nation Supports Us"; "Our Strength Lies on Our Unity"; "We Shall Unite for Khaqani and Ezzedin [Kurdish leader Ezzedin Hoseyn]" "Kurd and Arab Will Become Allies"; "We Are all Fada'is [devotees]".

Finally, the demonstrators issued the following resolutions:

1. We demand the release of all political prisoners of Arab origin recently arrested.

2. We support the position taken by Ayatollah Khaqani.

3. We demand a public trial of Vice Admiral Madani and all others involved in the horrible slayings of the Arabs.

4. We reject a constitution which does not contain mention of the right of autonomy for the [minority] nationalities of Iran.

5. In regard to the agreement reached between government officials and Ayatollah Khaqani: since this has been abrogated several times by Vice Admiral Madani and other government officials, (for example, continuing of raids on homes, increasing arrests of Arab youths, failure to identify and put on trial those involved in the killing of Arabs, and failure to realease political prisoners), we declare that the agreement is null and void, and that responsibility for this lies with the government.

6. We condemn reports on the incidents by the mass media, in particular, the Radio and Television Organization.

7. We strongly condemn any kind of monopoly-seeking or narrow-mindedness on the part of reactionary elements aimed at limiting freedom of expression and freedom to write.

8. We ask for the support of all progressive, forward-looking and liberal forces in the justification of our lawful demands.

WOMAN EXECUTED IN KERMANSHAH FOR 'CORRUPTION' 15 JULY

LD162304 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The Islamic Revolutionary Court of Kermanshah yesterday held a session to continue its investigation into the accusation of Noqreh Najafi, who has been accused of establishing a house of pleasure, deceiving girls and women and selling them to brothels, spreading prostitution, corruption and the means of corruption, making her living by leading girls and women into prostitution, and showing support for the satan of the era [the shah] by means of mobilizing clubwielders in the city of Kermanshah and also setting fire to the city.

Bearing in mind the contents of the file, the text of the testimonies included in the file, and also the evident signs of the crisis, she was declared guilty of the crimes. She was declared guilty of being one of the manifest examples of the destroyers of generations, sowing corruption on earth and waging war against God and the prophet of God and the Imam.

The investigation continued till 1330 yesterday. The verdict of the Islamic Revolutionary Court of Kermanshah, namely, the execution of Noqreh Najafi, was carried out at 2000 yesterday.

TEHRAN REPORTS PROPOSED PRESS BILL

LD132106 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 12 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The new press bill was published yesterday afternoon. Following the publication of the new bill, Mr Naser Mintachi, the minister of national guidance, said:

The bill will be presented to the Council of Government for approval next Saturday. He added: The new press bill is expected to be debated and studied for 2 or 3 days at the Council of Government sessions and then it will be presented to the Council of the Revolution for final approval. The approval of this bill by the Council of Government and the Council of the Revolution is expected to take place in a week, and during this period various groups of the people will have the opportunity to put forward their views pertaining to the new press bill so that these views are taken into consideration in the final phase.

The text of the press bill, which is formulated in 39 articles, is as follows:

Article 1. According to this law, the press consists of publications which are printed and published regularly, on specified dates, under constant and legible titles and with serial numbers, and which inform the public of sundry reports, information and viewspoints on social, economic, political, religious, scientific, cultural and artistic fields, and thereby help to enlighten public opinion and raise the level of knowledge in a special field.

Article 2. The issuing of a publication may be permitted only under the chief editorship of real persons using Iranian capital, whether it be an instrument for the publication of the thoughts and aspirations of a special group, society or party, or in the interest of public thoughts and beliefs.

A person applying to publish a publication should meet the following qualifications: 1) 1) Iranian citizenship; 2) at least 22 years old; 3) no criminal convictions depriving him of his social rights; 4) not under sequestration and bankruptcy by fraud and culpability, and not deprived of social rights; 5) endowed with qualities of honesty, probity and political integrity and moral rectitude; 6) having as a minimum a certificate for the completion of a full secondary school education together with 5 years' experience in journalism with a minimum age of 25 years. [as heard]

Note 1. The prime ministers, ministers, governors general and their assistants, generals of the army, the police and the gendarmerie, heads of government organizations, managing directors and directors on the boards of directors of government companies and banks, Majlis deputies, ambassadors and mayors, representatives of city, district and provincial councils and those closely related to the former regime who occupied these posts from 5 June 1965 to 11 February 1979 are to be deprived of the right to publish such publications.

Article 3. Those applying for a permit should fill in a declaration form listing all the information required, and hand it over to the Ministry of National Guidance in Tehran and and to the local national guidance department in the provincial cities. Should there be no national guidance department in the provincial city, the declaration form should be submitted to the national guidance department of the relevant provincial capital.

The information required is: 1) The full particulars of the applicant; 2) the full particulars of the chief editor; 3) the name of the publication and its masthead, should it have one; 4) the headquarters of the publication; 5) the frequency of publication, whether it be a daily, weekly, monthly, or otherwise; 6) the type of the publication, and its political course and intellectual and ideological principles; 7) the language of the publication.

Note 1. The qualified applicant will be given a special permit.

Note 2. The headquarters of the publication as entered on the declaration form, from the standpoint of carrying out the regulations of this law, shall be deemed the legal residence of the owner of the permit or the chief editor, and any notification of the said address shall be a legal one.

Note 3. Transferring the rights of utilizing the permit for publishing the publication to political parties and societies whose formation is not contrary to the laws of the country is permissible.

Article 4. Responsibility for investigating the application for issuance of the permit and investigating the competence of the applicant lies with a commission made up of the following: 1) a representative of publishers; 2) a representative of writers; 3) one of the counsellors of the state supreme court chosen by the president of that court; 4) a Tehran University professor chosen by the president of the University Council; 5) a leading counsellor at law chosen by the Lawyers' Association; 6) the press under secretary and director general at the National Guidance Ministry as the nonvoting secretary of the commission. The commission, after the necessary investigations, will give its recommendation on the issuance of the permit to the minister of national guidance.

Note 1. The election of the representatives of the publishers and writers will be in accordance with regulations to be approved by the Council of Ministers once worked out.

Note 2. Until the appointed commission here has been set up, its duties will be entrusted to the Ministry of National Guidance, and the national guidance minister, after consulting the writers and publishers, can communicate the facts for final approval to the prime minister.

Article 5. The applicant for a permit is to introduce a person to the National Guidance Ministry as chief editor. The chief editor, apart from possessing the qualifications mentioned in Article 2, should at least possess scientific and professional competence backed by the appointed commission in Article 4 of the National Guidance Ministry in accordance with the arrangement specified in Note 2 of the said article. The applicant for the permit, if he satisfies the said qualifications, may also be chief editor.

Note. Should the publication have, in addition to a chief editor, a separate senior editor, then the consideration of the special qualifications for the publication's chief editor also applies to the senior editor.

Article 6. Holders of permits for publishing of a publication could by the same token publish more than one publication, on condition that they introduce a separate chief editor for every publication.

Article 7. Within 3 months from the date of receiving the application, the National Guidance Ministry is duty bound to carry out the necessary investigations into the competence of the applicant, the chief editor and senior editor, taking into consideration the qualifications stipulated by this law, and to announce the rejection or acceptance of the application. On the approved applications, the National Guidance Ministry, bearing in mind Note 2 of Article 4, shall issue a permit for the publishing of the publication.

Article 8. The introduction of changes and alterations in the permit covering the publication and also its transferability depend on the agreement of the National Guidance Ministry following observance of this law's regulations.

Article 9. Should the publication's chief editor lack the qualifications stipulated Clauses 1, 2, 4 and 5 of Article 2 of this law or should he die or resign, then the permit-holder is duty bound to present another person who meets the qualifications to the National Guidance Ministry within a maximum period of 1 month. Otherwise the publishing of his publication will be prevented, and while the competence of the new chief editor is not confirmed, the permit-holder will be responsible for performing the tasks of the chief editor also.

Article 10. Should the permit-holder lack one of the qualifications stipulated in Clauses 1, 3, 4 and 5 of Article 2 of this law, then, at the discretion of the National Guidance Ministry, the publication's permit will be annulled.

Note 1. As regards Articles 7, 9 and 10 [as heard], the person concerned may lodge a complaint with the Provincial Court against the decision of the National Guidance Ministry. The verdict of the Provincial Court is final, and no appeal will be allowed.

Note 2. Should the permit-holder die, the permit will be issued in the name of an applicant endowed with the legal qualifications in accordance with the arrangement stipulated in this law, with the written consent of the majority of the heirs or their legal executor.

Note 3. The right to use the name of the publication belongs to the heirs, and in cases when this is to be transferred it is essential to obtain the agreement of the National Guidance Ministry.

11. The permit-holder is duty bound to publish the relevant publication within 6 months from the date of the permit's issue, otherwise the validity of the publication will be lost. Nonpublication of the publication on a regular basis in a year, should this be unjustifiable, will result in annulment of the permit.

Note 1. Concessionary agreements issued in accordance with previous regulations for present publications will remain valid on condition that the concession holder take steps within 3 months to fall into in line with this law and obtain a new permit.

Note 2. The name, address and other particulars of the publications for which permits are issued will be recorded in extenso with inclusion of the date in a special book prepared and formulated by the National Guidance Ministry.

Article 12. In every issue, the names of the permit holder chief editor, and senior editor, the addresses of the headquarters and printing house where the publication is published and also the publication's nature, whether it be religious, scientific, political, economic, literary or artistic, should be declared on a specific page and in a set place. Printing houses are also duty bound to observe the contents of this article.

Note 1. Publications are duty bound to inform in writing the National Guidance Ministry monthly of their monthly circulation figures.

Article 13. Chief editors of the press in Tehran and in the provincial cities are duty bound to dispatch regularly three copies of each issue of their publication to each of the following: the National Library, the library of the national consultative assembly, the public prosecutor of the provincial city, the National Guidance Ministry, the department of domestic press, and to the archive center for documents and proofs.

Article 14. Should the press at any time carry material of an insulting, libelous or untrue nature about a person, whether an individual entity [shakha haqiqi] or a legal and juridical entity [shakhs-e huquqi], the person concerned has the right to reply in writing to the same publication within a month. The said publication is duty bound to print gratis such elucidations and replies in one of the two issues published following receipt of the reply, on condition that the reply not exceed twice the length of the original issue and not contain insults or libels directed against any person. Should the publication, in addition to the reply, publish fresh facts and explanations, then the protestor may have the right to reply anew. The publishing of part of the reply in a manner calculated to render it incomplete or unintelligible, and also the addition of other things to it, is tantamount to not publishing it; the text of the reply should be published in a single issue.

The replies of election candidates during elections should be published in the first issue of the publication going to press after the reply is handed to the publication's office and a receipt obtained.

Article 15. Should the publication refuse to publish the reply or stop its publication, the person concerned may lodge a complaint with the public prosecutor in the provincial city. When the truth of the complaint lodged by the plaintiff is established, the public prosecutor of the provincial city is to issue a warning to the publication on publishing the reply, and should this warning prove ineffective, he will dispatch the dossier to the court for an order to be issued temporarily suspending publication for a period not exceeding 1 week.

Article 16. Responsibility for articles and items published in the publication rests with the chief editor. Should these articles or items prove deleterious to the interests of persons and result in compalints, the chief editor should identify the writer of the article or item or be answerable for him, unless it is proved that the chief editor has performed all routine tasks and responsibilities, in which case responsibility will rest with a person about whom investigations will be carried out.

Article 17. Anyone who writes or publishes an article or fabricates reports or copies false news in the press and who commits one of the following deeds will be sentenced for a misdemeanor to imprisonment from 2 months to 1 year:

A) Openly inciting and encouraging people to perpetrate sabotage, arson, murder, plunder and theft; B) openly inciting and encouraging officers and soldiers of the army to insubordination against the general orders of the army. Should the incitement and encouragement prove effective, the perpetrators will be given sentences reserved under the law of universal punishment for the accomplices of the original criminals.

Article 18. Anyone who publishes an article insulting the tenets of the true religion of Islam and deleterious to the principle of the Islamic revolution, as laid down in the Iranian constitution, will be sentenced to 6 months to 2 years' imprisonment for a misdemeanor.

Article 19. Should the press carry insulting, libellous or untrue material, whether as a composition by the staff of the publication or as a quotation from another source, or Islamic rites, the leader of the revolution, the unquestionable authoritative sources of Islam, the president and the prime minister, the pepetrator will be sentenced to 6 months to 2 years imprisonment for a misdemeanor.

Note. The investigation of the crimes listed in this article will follow a complaint lodged by a private plaintiff.

Article 20. The publication of photographs, pictures and items that outrage public decency and also the publication of details of secret talks engaged in by legal circles or the investigations carried out by the judicial authorities, the divulging of which is impermissible in accordance with the law, is forbidden. In cases of contravention the transgressor will be sentenced to 2 to 6 months' imprisonment for a misdemeanor or payment of a fine in cash from 20,000 to 100,000 rials.

Article 21. The publishing of any item or report involving a false accusation, libel, lies, unbecoming language or insulting references, and so forth, involving people, is forbidden. The transgressor will be sentenced to imprisonment for a misdemeanor from 2 months to 1 year and the prosecution of the crimes will depend on a private written complaint; in a case where the complaint is withdrawn, the prosecution, at whatever stage it has reached, is to be halted.

Note 1. In the said situations the plaintiff, whether an individual entity or a legal and juridical entity, may claim compensation for material and moral damage resulting from the crimes.

Note 2. Should the publication of items mentioned in this article concern a deceased person, any of his heirs may resort to criminal or juridicial litigation.

Article 22. Anyone using the press to threaten another with violation of his honor, integrity or with exposure of his secrets, will be sentenced to imprisonment for a misdemeanor from 2 months to 1 year and to the payment of a fine in cash from 20,000 to 100,000 rials.

Article 23. Anyone using the press to insult the Council of Ministers, the representatives assembly [majles-e namayandegan], or the panel of judges in court, or accuse them unjustly of a crime, will be prosecuted without complaint from a private plaintiff and will be sentenced to imprisonment for misdeameanor from 2 months to 1 year.

Note 1. The implementation of this article is not to act as a deterrent to writing and publishing criticism and expressing free opposing views.

Note 2. As regards Articles 19, 20 and 21, while the case is being investigated and studied, the publication involved in a complaint has no right to publish anything about the investigation concerned. In cases of contravention, the city's public prosecutor, prior to concluding his investigations, may request the country court [dadgah-e jonheh] to issue an order for suspension of the publication. The court will then hold an extraordinary session, without the presence of a representative of the public prosecutor's office, will investigate the case and will order the suspension of one issue of the publication; this order will apply to the latest issue of the publication after the order is issued.

Article 24. Anyone who uses the press to insult other faiths recognized by law will be sentenced to 6 months to 1 year's imprisonment for a misdemeanor or to pay a cash fine of 50,000 to 100,000 rials.

Article 25. Anyone who untruthfully identifies himself as holding a permit to publish a publication, as chief editor, senior editor, or reporter, or who without holding a permit publishes a publication will be sentenced to imprisonment for a misdemeanor for a term of 2 to 6 months. The regulations of this article also apply to permit-holders, chief editors, reporters, and senior editors who have been dismissed from their posts in accordance with the law.

Article 26. Anyone who, while publishing a publication, plagiarizes the title or masthead of another publication will be sentenced to imprisonment for a misdemeanor for 61 [as heard] days to 3 months or to a cash fine of 100,000 to 300,000 rials. The prosecution of the crime will depend on a complaint lodged by a private plaintiff.

Article 27. Any government official who embarks on bringing pressure to bear on the press for the publication of an item or an article or resorts to imposing censorship or control on publications, apart from being permanently banned from holding government office, will be sentenced to imprisonment for a misdemeanor for a term of 6 months to 3 years. This will not include official statements by the government or by ministries.

Article 28. Any crimes committed by the press will be investigated by a criminal court in the presence of a council of jurors.

Article 29. Election of the council of jurors will be as follows: every 2 years, in the month beginning 23 September, a meeting will be held in Tehran in order to elect the members of the council of jurors at the invitation of the national guidance minister, in the presence of the president of the city's courts and the chairman of the city council; should there not be a city council, in the presence of the mayor. In the provincial capitals, at the invitation of the provincial governor general, a meeting will be held of the city's governor, the head of the justice department, the chairman of the city council--should there be no city council, with the participation of the mayor and a representative of the National Guidance Ministry. The meeting will elect a total number of 18 individuals enjoying public trust from among various social groups, the clergy, university professors, doctors, writers, journalists, lawyers, secondary and primary school teachers, public notaries, the guilds, artisans, workers and farmers.

Article 30. Members of the jurors' council should have the following qualifications: at least 30 years of age; no previous serious criminal conviction; characterized by truthfulness, probity and a good reputation.

Article 31. After the selection of members of the jurors' council, in Tehran, the national guidance minister, and in the provinces, the governors general, will dispatch the list of the jurors' council to the director general of the province's courts.

Article 32. In every trial involving the pres, the criminal court in its preliminary session, attended by the public prosecutor or his representative, will invite 18 members of the jurors' council--11 of whom will be original members and the rest alternative members--to attend the sessions of the trials. At any rate, the court's session will be officially valid with the presence of 11 members of the jurors' council who have been invited to attend. Members of the jurors' council are dutybound to attend the sessions of the court until the conclusion of these sessions.

Article 33. Every member of the jurors' council who is absent from the court sessions without a valid excuse or who fails to participate in reaching a decision during a trial will be sentenced to 2 years' deprivation of membership on the jurors' council by verdict of the court hearing the case.

Article 34. The instances that apply to rejection of the jurors' council members are the same that apply, in accordance with the law, to the rejection of judges.

Article 35. Should the members of the jurors' council have any questions in the course of the trial, they may deliver their question in writing to the court and it will then be submitted by the president of the court.

Article 36. In order to investigate the crimes listed in this bill, a criminal court will be convened with the participation of a president and two judges and a jurors' council in attendance, and will carry out its investigations in accordance with public regulations. Immediately after the line of judgment has been announced, the members of the jurors' council will begin deliberations, will decide on the issues and will then communicate the decision of the majority of the jurors' council in writing to the court. Then the court, on the basis of the said decision, will issue its verdict: a) guilty or not guilty; b) if guilty, whether mitigation is warranted.

Should the verdict be guilty, the court will decide on applying the law to the deed in question and on specifying the degree of punishment and on determining other legal aspects of the accusation.

Should the court's verdict be guilty, then the verdict, within the limits of the law regulations, will be subject to appeal, but if the verdict is not guilty, then it is not subject to appeal.

Article 37. Should the court's verdict be not guilty of a conviction which does not call for deprivation of social rights, the publication involved which has already been under suspension will immediately be released from suspension, and there will be no objection to its renewed publication.

Article 38. The formulation of the regulations governing the execution of this law is entrusted to the National Guidance Ministry, which will attempt to entrust the execution of this law, except in cases connected with the sovereignty of the government, to guild organizations [as heard].

Article 39. From the date of the formulation of this bill, all laws and regulations contrary to it are annulled, and the National Guidance Ministry is delegated to execute it.

KERMANSHAH PROSECUTOR WARNS AGAINST UNAUTHORIZED ARRESTS

LD170726 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 17 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The following statement was issued by the Islamic revolution public prosecutor in Kermanshah Because of the responsibility entrusted to the office of public prosecutor of the Islamic revolution to protect the prestige, security and freedom of the noble people of Kermanshah, and because there have been some instances of irresponsible people--without information or authorization from the office of the public prosecutor--attempting to arrest some people of forcefully entering people's houses in order to search or inspect the premises, the office of public prosecutor of the Islamic revolution explicitly announces that any attempt to arrest people without the proper authorization from the office or any forceful and unauthorized entry into people's houses will be prosecuted and severely punished regardless of the name, title or position held b the violator of this statement. Also, all the summons arrest orders and authorizations issued from this office since 15 July are declared null and void.

FUMAN MARCHERS SUPPORT CRUSADE FOR RECONSTRUCTION

LD131402 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 13 Jul 79 LD

[Text] According to a report from the Islamic Revolutionary Committee in the City of Fuman, at about noon yesterday, after a lecture by Dr. Fakhrud-Din Hejazi which was given in the Bala-Mahalleh area of Fuman, a number of inhabitants marched through the streets of the town in support of the crusade for reconstruction and against those who indulge in overcharging and hoarding. After their march, the demonstrators issued a six-point resolution. While expressing their readiness to participate in the crusade for reconstruction, they warned shopkeepers in Fuman and indulge in overcharging to refrain from their inhuman practices. The marches expressed full support for the Islamic Republic under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni and strongly condemned every action which would lead to disunity and every kind of poison-spreading among the people which would weaken the Provisional Government of the Islamic Republic.

FORMER OFFICIALS DETAINED FOR TRIAL IN BANDAR 'ABBAS

LD141258 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0730 GMT 14 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The Islamic revolution public prosecutor's office in Bandar 'Abbas has issued the following announcement:: A number of people are being held at the detention center of the public prosecutor's office and their trial is due to start soon. Those who have lodged complaints against these individuals or who wish to attend the court session in order to give testimony are requested to come to the headquarters of Bandar 'Abbas's Islamic Revolutionary Guards on 14 and 15 July from 0900 to 1200 in order to receive the special card authorizing them to attend the session. However, nonattendance by the plaintiffs and witnesses will not prevent or delay the trial and the investigations.

Those under detention are:

Retired Maj Gen Farhad Dara'i, former commander of the regional gendarmerie in the coastal province; Navy Capt Nader 'Arabshahi, former commander of the Bandar Abbas Naval Base; Navy Capt Yusef Bandar 'Abbas Naval Base; Col Reza Ahmadi, former head of the central police station in Bandar 'Abbas; Capt 'Abbas Mehrabi, former head of navy counterintelligence in Bandar 'Abbas; 1st Lt Mohammad Reza Sadri, traffic officer in Bandar 'Abbas; Fereydun Azadmehr, an official of the defunct SAVAK in Bandar 'Abbas; Hoseyn Kheyrandish, businessman and property owner in Bandar 'Abbas; Khodayar Mohammadi, an official of the Cooperatives Department and collaborator with the defunct SAVAK in Bandar Lengehi; and 'Ali Asghar Moqarrabolhaq, property owner and collaborator with the defunct SAVAK.

KIDNAPER, RAPIST, DRUG PUSHER EXECUTED IN ESFAHAN

LD150750 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 15 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The Esfahan revolution court announced that Asghar Baghban Basir has been tried by the court and sentenced to death. The sentence was carried out early this morning. He was charged with kidnaping and raping children, as well as selling heroin, providing young boys to others for the purpose of homosexuality, armed attack against guards and wounding one of them with a knife.

ARMS SEIZED BY REVOLUTIONARY GUARDS IN BUSHEHR

LD161822 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] According to report from the central news bureau, the Islamic Revolutionary Guards in Bushehr uncovered some arms today. According to a report from our correspondent, the arms which have been discovered include 100 Kalashnikov machineguns and 7,000 bullets. They were discovered in a motor launch carrying 25 passengers which was seized in the Bendar area near Bushehr. The owners of the contraband arms were arrested.

EAST AZARBAYJAN GOVERNOR EXPLAINS TRIBAL INCIDENT

LD161806 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Engineer Nurreddin Gharavi, governor general of East Azarbayjan, today strongly denied the report published in newspapers and magazines concerning the recent events in Meshkin Shahr. He said: Only a few people were injured in the Meshkin Shahr events. Their injuries were minor and superficial. They received treatment and were discharged.

The governor general of East Azarbayjan added: The incident involved a quarrel between two tribes over a spring. It has been going on for a long time. Fortunately, after speaking with members of the clergy and after some statements were made, it was decided that both sides should try to resolve their differences as soon as possible.

FIVE ACCUSED SENTENCED TO DEATH IN DEZFUL

LD161828 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 16 Jul 79 LD

[Text] The following announcement has been issued by the headquarters for harmony of the Islamic revolution in Dezful:

In the past 4 days, the Islamic Revolutionary Court of Dezful has completed investigation of the files of 30 accused people and has issued its final verdicts on 5 of the accused: Kiyumars Gheysi, Hoseyn Isadi, Hasan Sahra-Bagli, Hoseyn Farhadi and Mohammad Dalvandpur. They were found guilty of suppression of the demonstrations of the people of Dezful, and were declared guilty of sowing corruption on earth. They were sentenced to execution.

PEOPLE NOT ALLOWED TO CARRY ARMS IN BANDAR GENAVEH

LD170844 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 17 Jul 79 LD

[Text] According to reports from PARS, following sporadic shooting throughout the night and disturbances of the public peace in Bandar Genaveh, the First Gendarmerie commanding officer of this port announced in a statement that irresponsible persons should stop disturbing public security. The statement says: In order to put an end to the disturbances and prevent accidents, from this date no one is allowed to shoot without reason even in celebrations. The statement emphasizes that thos disturbing public peace and security will be prosecuted. In conclusion, the commanding officer of the gendarmerie unit in Bandar Genaveh asks for cooperation from the people and the Revolutionary Guards and announces that people are not allowed to carry firearms in the town.

QAZVIN CITIZENS BEGIN HANDING IN ARMS

LD170848 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0630 GMT 17 Jul 79 LD

[Text] Following the statement iasued by the provisional public prosecutor of Qazvin on disarming citizens, some of our brothers have handed in the following arms: 13 G3 rifles, 180 rounds of ammunition, 1 revolver and 3 Colt pistols.

CHIEF OF STAFF ON AIR FORCE TECHNICIANS STRIKES

LD131047 Tehran AYANDEGAN in Persian 9 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report on interview given to AYANDEGAN on 8 July by Chief of General Staff Farbod]

[Text] Major General Farbod, chief of the general staff, said yesterday in an interview with AYANDEGAN: "So far, I have not received information concerning the sit-in strikes by the air force technicians in the provinces. He added that the army has "coordinating" councils, not "ruling" councils, and the claim of some of the technicians that they include members of the former regime and Americans is an "outright lie." Major Farbod said: Instructions have been given that technicians' problems should be considered by their representatives, other officers and warrant officers and those involved, so that a logical appraisal might be made of the results and sent to me. If we come to a conclusion, we will lend our support. I summoned their representatives today, as I did yesterday, so that we might see where the matter which has been raised now stands.

In reply to a report that the technicians are staging sitdown strikes, Major General Farbod said: "I asked the technicians to wait until the problems are solved. Problems exist at state level. Everyone must wait until we reach a conclusion. The technicians are part of a whole. We have entrusted the investigation into the technicians' position on military ranking to Bureau 1 (the administrative and employment office)."

Farbod said he had not received reports on sit-in strikes by technicians in Shiraz, Tabriz and Babolsar from their commanders and he would look into the matter the next day.

Report on Threatened Strike

LD170857 Tehran AYANDEGAN in Persian 12 Jul 79 p 1 LD

[Unattributed report on military technicians' strike]

[Text] A strike by the homafaran [military technicians] at air force bases and the lack of adequate maintenance inspection teams has resulted in the grounding of military aircraft, and except in sensitive cases no flight safety control installations for civil aircraft are functioning. This follows a warning given by the homafaran that if the government and the army fail to fulfill their demands regarding military commanders, in particular those of the air force, they will begin to make disclosures.

Last night, the homafaran representatives' press liaison officer, in contact with AYANDEGAN, said: "Ayatollah Taleqani and Mehdi Bazargan, the prime minister, have requested that the homafaran refrain from making these disclosures under present conditions."

The homafaran said: "We have turned over to our other friends details of charges and disclosures concerning them, and we are now in the process of studying them and taking appropriate and timely action."

The homafaran press liaison officer said: "The homafaran have thus decided that in order to show good will, they will postpone making these revelations for the time being, unless the nation of Iran demands otherwise."

The press liaison officer then referred to an announcement put out by the air force warrant officers, and said: "Our warrant officer brothers mut be on the alert against the numerous groups which are engaged, through various conspiracies, in pitting the homafaran and the warrant officers against each other, and, as we said in a press announcement when we referred to the existence of conspiracies, the warrant officers should remain alert to what is going on around them and should not allow people who issue announcements and resolutions in their name to cause this confrontation between the homafaran and the warrant officers."

The homafaran liaison officer warned that the warrant officers should be aware that if they were to carry out a simple investigation and if they wished to refute those who, in the name of the warrant officers, have written in deprecation of the homafaran, they would realize who stood to gain in this. He said: "We thus expect that our warrant officer brothers, in view of the great perception they have of present conditions, will identify such persons and will dissociate themselves from them, for unity between the homafaran and the warrant officers is the guarantee of the victory of both parties and of frustrating renewed rule by imperialism over the air force."

Probability That 18,000 homafaran Will Strike

The homafaran liaison officer said: "At present, apart from the Shiraz homafaran, who have begun the third week of their strike, there are 13,800 Homafaran stationed at the bases at Bandar Abbas, Bushehr, Tabriz, Babolsar, Dezful, Mehrabad, Shahrabad near Mashhad, the training centers, and the air force headquarters, where the majority of the Homafaran are concentrated, together with the homafaran of Padafand, who are just completing the seventh day of their strike. A number of warrant officers at Padafand have also gone on strike in support of the homafaran." He added: "Because we could not contact a Homafaran representative in Jask or Kish, we have no information concerning their situation.

The homafaran press liaison officer said: "In view of the announcement by the army homafaran (including the airborne section, the computer, electronics and ordinance departments), who announced that they would go on strike as of 25 Tir (16 July), the number of strikers as of that date will reach 18,000."

Yesterday, representatives of various homafaran units attended a committee meeting convened for the purpose of proceeding to all-out strike, and firmly decided to go on striking. At this session, most of the representatives agreed to step up their strike action, but it was agreed at this gathering that pending an announcement of the views of the five air force and ground forces Homafaran representatives who have been engaged in discussions with the commander of the army staff, they would continue their sitdown strike as formerly. However, they announced that by next Saturday they would react in some way.

The homafaran press liaison officer said: "The air force commanders are trying to make out to the army command that no one is on strike, and are trying to play down the matter. This has led to the government's failing to act decisively."

The Bases Are Closed for All Practical Purposes

According to the homafaran, in the wake of the strike by homafaran responsible for technical operations related to flights by military aircraft, no flights are being made from air force bases and the radar system of many of the bases are not functioning and are switched off. It can be said that the homafaran are not giving permission for military aircraft to take off or land, but at certain bases, such as Dezful and Hamadan, which are of vital importance, the equipment is still functioning.

Strike by Bushehr homafaran

We, the homafaran of the Bushehr Air Force Base, along with other homafaran of the air force bases, pending recognition of the demands made by homafaran representatives, shall stage a daily 2-hour sit-in strike beginning 6 Tir (7 July) at the base's hoseynieh ershad [religious instruction centre], and we announce that:

1. A number of reactionary elements are busy hatching a plot whereby, through their malicious instigations, some of our warrant officers and officers may be set against us by means of trickery and misrepresentation of the true state of affairs.

This runs counter to revolutionary solidarity and to our demands, and we are the guards [parsdaran] of these regions. Therefore, should any incident occur, we the Homafaran will as our duty condemn and deliver up those involved in these antipopular conspiracies, and we know who they are.

2. Before the strike begins, we shall have made ready a sufficient number of aircraft for the defense of Iran's borders. However, as regards using aircraft for practice flights, since a number of them have not been serviced (and this can only be carried out by the Homafaran) the state of readiness at the base will decrease day by day.

3. In spite of our strike, we shall maintain sensitive instruments at the base--for example radar, communications and flight equipment,--which are handled by the Homafaran-in a state of operational readiness, and we declare that we shall only accept responsibility for armed aircraft used for vital flights, but that we do not accept responsibility for any incident relating to ordinary flights.

GUARDS, 'COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES' CLASH IN BANDAR ANZALI

LD171228 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0930 GMT 17 Jul 79 LD

[Text] According to a PARS report, last Sunday evening the Revolutionary Guard of the Bandar Anzali committee [formerly Bandar Pahlavi] and a number of unknown people clashed in the city's Mosaddeq Hospital, resulting in the injury of people and damage to the hospital building. The clashes followed earlier fighting and clashes at the Bandar Anzali Port, which resulted in the injury of one person. According to the report, the counter-revolutionary elements fled after the clashes. The matter is being investigated by committee members and guardians sent from the capital. Following the incidents, the head of the headquarters of the Bandar Anzali Islamic revolution said that following the incidents, counterrevolutionary elements, who are known individuals, in a telephone contact threatened us that they would attack us and set the headquarters on fire, but that the Revolutionary Guard, with alertness, will crush all counterrevolutionary elements.

AFGHANISTAN

CABINET HOLDS SESSION UNDER TARAKI

JN151908 Kabul International Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Jul 79 JN

[Text] The Cabinet has held a 3-hour session under the chairmanship of the great leader, Nur Mohammad Taraki, secretary general of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and chairman of the Revolutionary Council.

The beloved leader, Nur Mohammad Taraki, submitted to the Cabinet a brief report on the internal and international situation. The Cabinet then discussed proposals by the ministers and the various departments. The Cabinet took the following decisions: [sentence indistinct] As proposed by the Finance Ministry, the Cabinet decided to build a warehouse in the (Kolishor) industrial area to [words indistinct] ministries, corporations, departments, banks and other firms. Instructions were given to the Mines and Industries Ministry and the Kabul municipality to determine the location of the warehouse. The Ministry of Public Works was instructed to cooperate in the construction of the warehouse.

As proposed by the Finance Ministry, the Cabinet also decided that the Finance Ministry will settle all outstanding accounts of the various departments up to 1957. The various institutions and departments will, after that date, pay taxes according to custom tariffs and taxation laws.

As proposed by the Ministry of Water and Power, the Cabinet gave instructions for purchasing heavy construction equipment worth $2,941,000, needed by the (Helmand) construction company, from the Soviet (Machinexport) company.

As proposed by the Ministry of Planning, the Cabinet approved the $5 million interest-free loan agreement from the Iraqi Government.

PRIME MINISTER AMIN SPEAKS TO PROVINCIAL ELDERS

LD132246 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 12 Jul 79 LD

[Speech by Hafizollah Amin, prime minister of Afghanistan, to the leaders of Wardak Province at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs--date not specified]

[Text] Following is the highlights of the speech of Hafizollah Amin, secretary and member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and lomri wazir [prime minister], delivered to the ulemas, elders and representatives of the people of [words indistinct] of Wardak Province at the [word indistinct] palace of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs recently. He began, saying:

(?Dear) compatriots, I have the honor to see you and welcome you, the representatives of the brave and valorous people, in this palace which for years was the seat of rulers and the center of pleasure of the oppressors, parasites and tyrants. Dear compatriots, the Great Sawr Revolution, which was the first (?Sawr) and workers revolution in the history of Afghanistan, (?triumphed) with the participation of your valorous brothers and sons.

All are honored with the [word indistinct] (?fact) that the brothers and sons of the toiling people were standing next to one another. With their cooperation we launched an organized struggle and could issue the command of the revolution with the help of their valor and zeal, and carried out the revolution victoriously.

Your brothers and sons are proud that they have brought about such an atmosphere for the toiling people of Afghanistan and have opened up such a way that they will soon receive great prestige and honor which the world would be surprised about. Dear compatriots, this is not a private regime, nor is it the private property and (?state) of one person. It is not (?the objective and) power of one person. It is the people's regime, and it is at the (?discretion) and power of the people. It is the pride of the people, and it is for the people. Therefore the people of Afghanistan have the honor that for the first time in their history they have traversed such a (?stage) and reached such a stage where they now have their destiny, their life and all their social existence at their own hand, and organize their life themselves.

Since the Great Sawr Revolution, the earth, the sky and all the endowments and wealth of Afghanistan and whatever belongs to this land are placed at the disposal of you toilers and the valorous people of Afghanistan. Now we see that those toilers, Hazaras, who sustained their living by (?drawing carts and found) a loaf of bread by striving every (?hour) and (?accorded) all misery which cannot be imagined by man, can now stand proudly side-by-side with their Pakhtoun, Tajik and Baluch toiling brothers (?and compare their) [words indistinct] (?and secure a) life free of exploitation of all plunderers and oppressors.

Now, as the tyranny of and despotism of Amir Abdurrahman Khan were (?echoed in the ears of) our Hazara brothers, the same way the tyranny and despotism are also echoed in the (?ears) of our Nuristani brothers, now such an atmosphere has been brought about for our Nuristani brothers that they will be released from the hardships of (?mountain) life and will have a (?softer) life in the country.

Now our Turkomen and Baluch toiling brothers who felt frustration in Afghanistan and whose existence was not felt, their language was not heard and spoken, and nobody realized that such a language ever existed, are provided with such an atmosphere that they have to be proud of their country along with our Pakhtoun, Tajik, Hazara and Nuristani brothers of (?their) Afghanistan, and work day and night for the construction of Afghanistan, who are to hand over proudly the country prosperous to the future generation.

Dear compatriots, as our great leader has repeatedly said, before the Great Sawr Revolution 98 percent of our toiling people worked hard with blisters on their palms and sweat on their foreheads and provided essentials of life for themselves and their lords. They shortened their life and worked hard days and nights and the parasitic and oppressive lords used to seize a great part of their yield and left a small part of nothing to them, so the next year they would also be kept needy, and turned to the lord, [word indistinct] parasitic and oppressive [word indistinct] and bow to (?their feet) and be in their service. But by the virtue of the Sawr Revolution this 98 percent of the population are now doing everything for themselves. The remaining 2 percent who were (?spongers) and lived on the (?bread) of the 98 percent were compelled either to join the toilers as (?noble-acting) [word indistinct] compatriots and valorous compatriots, and construct the country like workers and peasants and take part in their homeland, or leave the country.

As Afghani [words indistinct] have taken refuge to the enemies of (?their) country, they also flee and take refuge to the enemies of our country and wait shamefully there for a piece of bread to be given to them and to live a shameful life.

It is for this reason that the enemies of our country and the antirevolutionary elements make propaganda, saying that the people of Afghanistan are against the Khalqi state and Khalqi regime. But the fact is that we [words indistinct] in action and (?work hard) by experiment.

We see in practice what is happening in the country. You compatriots witnessed that when the victory of the Great Sawr Revolution was declared and all the powers of Afghanistan (?fell) in the hands of the Khalqi and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan the people welcomed all over the country with joy and pleasure the Khalqi and the Khalqi regime, and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan with clapping, performance of dances, beating of drums and shouting of slogans, and everywhere our people expressed joy and delight over the coming of the new order. The People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan and the leaders of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan were not unknown persons to the valorous, brave and prestigious people of Afghanistan. They were not unrecognized and unknown persons.

(?And) ever since [words indistinct] when the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan was established, the enemies of the people have been making all sorts of propaganda against this party and its leaders. All members of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan were the brothers and sons of you toilers, and none of them came from any other place, and none came from among the sons of generals and ministers of the monarchy, none of them came from among the sons of the oppressive lords of Afghanistan, and none of them belonged to the enemies of the people of Afghanistan. All members of the party were brothers and sons of your toiling people, who had gathered around their great leaders and had pride in their (?hunger), labor, farming and valor. These were the members of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, who conveyed the voice of the people to every house and every village of Afghanistan.

(?Khalqis), the members of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan were famous everywhere, and everybody knew who they were, what they did, what ideas they had and what they wanted. They had made their voice reach everybody, and had promised everybody that they were the servants of the people, the servants of toilers and [word indistinct] laborers and peasants, and would remain at their service. They promised the people that whatever they wanted, such as property, land and clothes, they wanted them for the toilers and not for themselves, because they believed that as the people prospered they would prosper, too. They believed that when the people had a decent life they would have a good life, too. Therefore they were recognizsed and known everywhere.

When the Sawr Revolution triumphed all the toiling people of Afghanistan realized who was behind the revolution, what their nature was, and what they were doing in Afghanistan. They all know that our party was the party of workers and the peasants (?and) toilers of Afghanistan, and were ready to sacrifice their properties, their lives and blood for their country. At last the revolution was (?triumphant). You bear witness to the fact, and I want you to swear to honor that. Upon victory of the revolution bow, one wave of enthusiasm was rolling all over Afghanistan and how much the people expressed joy and pleasure over this event. The people used to say there came the Khalqi regime, the workers' regime. The country is free. The oppressors fled away. [Word indistinct] left. The palaces of [word indistinct] we toppled. We know that the enemy interfered, sent rupees, dollars, pounds, rials and tomans, and gave away arms and told lies and levelled accusations and deceived the people. (?This) is why the enemies claim now their intrigues in the name of toiling people, who know, too, that all is the act of the enemy, the deeds of the enemy and the propaganda of the enemy of the people and the revolution. It is clear that conspiracies which are attacked, otherwise when the revolution triumphed, why didn't the people show their hostility towards it at the beginning. [sentence as heard] They did not show hostility because they knew this was the toilers' regime and the regime of workers. These were and are the servants of the toiling people. It is for this reason that we have the honor and (?full) confidence that the toiling and valorous people of Afghanistan realize (?their) good and bad. They know that as their fathers and fore-fathers defeated colonialism, as historically the sun used to dawn and set, that is the British Empire, for the first time in the history of the East (?they have) guarded their independence and freedom and inherited them to us. We, as their true and real sons, offer to preserve our independence and freedom with our blood and build this country with our property, lives and blood, in order to hand over a prosperous and built-up society to the future generation where they would not be any feudalism, any (?spongers).

The present regime that you see won such a (?prize) in Afghanistan that our friends were pleased with it very much and our enemies (?not at all). This is a great prize which has been won 14 months after the victory of the Great Sawr Revolution. In no other country of the world has land reform been carried out in such a short period of time; that is 14 months (?since) the victory of the revolution. This is a heroic task which has been accomplished in this country. History has not (?shown) any other country accomplishing such great tasks. It is our honor that for the first time in the history of the world we see land reform programs completed in 6 months. They showed to the toilers of the world that the brave and valorous sons of Afghanistan could accomplish such a great task in the history of the world in a short period of time.

We have the honor to see that universities, faculties, and schools are opened every day in Afghanistan and (?that) teaching possibilities are provided for the people of Afghanistan every day. We have the honor to see the help that hundreds of thousands of the toiling illiterates enroll voluntarily in the literacy courses and study in order to enlighten the country (?and bring in knowledge). Now we see that thousands of our youth are sent abroad every year with the hopes of their country and help their people in achieving great progress.

They go there to study what we need for the construction of our country, and they would soon replace foreign experts in Afghanistan. These brave and valorous brothers and sons of us will return to their country as experts, scholars and specialists, and build their country.

[Word indistinct] is constructed in (?their) country every day. [Word indistinct] factories are expanding. Roads, (?alleys) and buildings are constructed. And this movement is going on everywhere, and this campaign is continuing. This construction work is proceeding fast ahead. We give account to our people. The world looks upon us in such a manner that our friends get happy, but the hearts of our enemies have broken. We see that soon there will come a time when our toiling people will meet their needs for food, clothing, housing, schooling and hospitalization. All these will be made available to all the people, and the people will be busy in building the country with all love and enthusiasm and will (?print) with their flesh, [words indistinct] bone and brain a good country (?that's theirs) and that indeed they have built their country.

Dear compatriots, because of the friendship and signing of the friendship treaty with the Soviet Union, I present this issue to conscience, honor and judgment of you great and valorous compatriots. Can you give us an example of enmity of the Soviet Union with Afghanistan during the 62 years since the existence of the Soviet Union? Is there anybody in Afghanistan and the world to show us as an example any incidents of hostility of the Soviet Union towards Afghanistan, or any damage inflicted by the Soviet Union to Afghanistan during these 62 years? Instead, the Soviet Union has recently extended a helping hand towards the people of Afghanistan and has (?assisted) them. [Words indistinct] we make friendship with the Soviet Union because it has not only inflicted no damage to us, but has extended much cooperation to us in the recent years. All the buildings existing in Afghanistan, dams, roads, palaces, houses or schools have been constructed to a great extent by the assistance of the Soviet Union. We again have the honor that we have (?preserved this pride). We give no one in the world the right to interfere in our honor which has been left to us by our fathers and forefathers, and that is our independence and freedom.

Dear compatriots, the toiling and valorous people of Afghanistan may need the assistance of others in a bid to building the country and improve their living. However, we feel no need for the assistance of others in two things. No one can compete with us in this regard. No one is more advanced than us in this regard. No one can teach us, but instead we teach others, and we have shown it to others. These two things are, first: No one can make religious propaganda to us, or no one can teach us religion, or lead our toiling and generous Muslims towards Islam, because it was the valorous toilers of Afghanistan who spread Islam in the region. They helped (?it reach) there. Now those who have freshly become Muslims and are [words indistinct] in the (?early spring) have no right to give religious directions to our valorous, [word indistinct] and toiling Muslims (?to teach them) religion.

The second thing is that no one can teach us the lesson of freedom and independence. We have won our freedom and independence with our blood and have preserved it with our blood. We have irrigated the tree and freedom with our blood and made it grow with our blood. No one has greater pride in the world than us in winning, maintaining and safeguarding freedom and independence. Anybody who wants to (?take) a lesson of honor (?and) pride, he should take it from the valorous people of Afghanistan.

We have employed experts from other countries in order to build our country. They cooperate with us. We pay them, and they work for us. Yes, we say that we have not only employed Soviet experts, but also Indian, Pakistani, Czechoslovak, British, Canadian, American and (?other) experts and experts from other countries. The country is ours and we built the country. We have no desire that somebody should (?exploit it) instead of us. We construct our homeland and make use of the expertise of others. We pay them in order to help us in constructing our country. You should think about your country and your (?wealth). Everything of this country is of you, dear compatriots. This [words indistinct] which (?have come) from the country are all yours and are of nobody else. Whatever other countries assist us to reach (?either) of your (?expertise), existence, pride and honor is also yours. This assistance is given because of your credit. No one assists (?us free). They see that you valorous people live here and construct your country, and for this reason they extend to us assistance. All this sum of money is yours, and it is you who will spend it, how you spend it. I give you an example. When we work out to accomplish a task we employ an expert to do it. If we employ this expert from the Soviet Union you will pay him between 300 and 500 dollars. We may employ the same expert and of the same qualification (?only) [words indistinct] from the capitalist countries, but with much higher salary. According to the last report I have received from the Ministry of Planning, each of these experts get a monthly salary between 2,000 and 7,000 dollars. Now you say yourselves which one do you employ for the construction in the country? Which one you would want to employ if their qualifications are the same. One is employed cheaply and would work good and the outcome is not less than (?the other). He wants a monthly salary between 12,000 and 20,000 Afghanis. However, the other wants between 80,000 and 280,000 Afghanis. Now which one do you employ? It is in fact the propaganda of our enemies. They do this in order not to let our country get constructed and developed. But this is a country of toilers; this is a country of peasants and workers. Our enemies are frightened and tell lies and level accusations against us. We see that they are the reactionaries of Iran and Pakistan and the enemies of the people and corrupt elements. Pakhtouns and Baluchis are our toiling brothers. Our country is open to all of them. Our country is their homeland, and wherever they may be they are our brothers as you are. We welcome them enthusiastically as we welcome you with all love.

Dear compatriots, we know and have the wisdom that we have all the toiling people in Sind and Punjab. They are our class brothers. Whatever we want for ourselves we want it for them also. We want for them the kind of living that we want for ourselves. We have toiling brothers in Iran too. They are our brothers and whatever we want for ourselves we want it for them, too. We know that armed toilers in Pakistan and Iran are getting aware of their responsibilities every hour and every day, and are realizing their duty as well, because they want to win honors in the history and get their name recorded (?proudly) in the history. They defend the Great Sawr Revolution every day and are (?standing to) support the Sawr Revolution. They consider this revolution their own revolution, our (?fighting) Baluchi brothers continue as their brothers, whether the enemy weeps or laughs or whatever they do. Our country is theirs, and they can live wherever they want. They consider our (?honored) revolution and success theirs. Likewise the world's toilers, wherever they may be, especially in Sind and Punjab and Iran, consider our revolution their revolution and will defend it.

Whether they want it or not it is their duty and they have to obey the dictates of history. Therefore it is a matter of pleasure that they have realized their obligation and perceived their duties and responsibilities. Whatever trouble is felt in Afghanistan it is in fact created by the foreign reactionaries. Whenever they attack the homeland of toilers their attack is directed to the toiler of Afghanistan. If a war is waged it would be between the toiling people of Afghanistan and their (?sworn) enemies. Today whenever an attack takes place against our land it would be a foreign attack, and whenever an invasion takes place it would be a foreign aggression.

We have inherited and learned from our forefathers and mothers that in case our country is attacked and our honor and history are endangered, death (?on the blanket) would be a disgraceful death of (?the cowardly).

Amin Addresses Ulema

ID162258 Kabul in English to Europe 1900 GMT 16 Jul 79 ID

[Part one of "highlights" of "recent" speech by Hafizollah Amin, secretary and member of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee Politburo and prime minister, to a number of ulema and representatives of different Afridi tribes at the Afghan Ministry of Foreign Affairs--read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Very dear and brave friends, with great honor today I welcome you in this country of yours at a time when those parasitic oppressors who played with the destiny of our courageous people do not exist anymore. The toiling people of Afghanistan have always cherished this hope and desire to live with you-hand-in-hand and side-by-side with a brotherly spirit and to work to build their country in order to compensate those backwardnesses which our valorous toilers have been confronted with.

Now that peasants and farmers own the country and have authority in their homeland and have the political power in their hands and the state is theirs, they welcome you with great brotherly affection, sincerity and patriotism, and they notice in you the reflection of all Pushtun and Beluch toilers. Your faces remind them of the faces of all Pushtuns and Baluchis.

Our Pushtun and Baluchi brothers always sway in the tides of their brotherly affection. They will also convey it to our Punjabi and Sindi toiling brothers. These are the tides that rise from every corner of Afghanistan and convey this errand to all the Punjabi and Sindi toilers that such a brilliant task that we have today will reach to you also tomorrow.

Dear compatriots, at a time when our fathers and ancestors were fighting against the oppressors and invaders and in the world gained the title of a nation loving independence, the (?growth) of all those courage and mettle have borne such a fruit that brought the Sawr Revolution to victory, brought the peasants and toilers to power. Those valorous fathers and ancestors of (?us) kept the country from British [words indistinct]. They have kept hoisted the flag of (?freedom). They sacrificed themselves, but kept their country.

They lost their lives, but gained honor and defeated the British Empire. Your great sons and brothers saved the country from the claws of these (?wily) parasites. These are the true sons of those ancestors who today rescued the country from the British agents, from the parasitic oppressors.

There is no longer anyone to look down upon the peasants, to insult the farmers and to belittle the poor. Dear compatriots, when happiness has come to Afghanistan that happiness has not been limited to Afghanistan, but its effects have reached other places, too, and when sadness has prevailed that sadness, too, has been shared with our other toiling brothers and they have not left us alone. You look at the history of your fathers and ancestors: When Pushtuns have taken their swords out, Baluchis have done so. Every nationality of Afghanistan has shared (?the sword). All the happiness, sadness, work and life of our Pushtun and Baluchi brothers have been shared between them in the history and never have other toilers left us alone.

INDIA

PRIME MINISTER DESAI DENIES JANATA FAILURE

BK161646 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jul 79 BK

[Text] The prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai said this evening that in spite of defections by a number of members from the Janata Parliamentary Party during the last week, it still remains by far the largest single party in the Lok Sabha. In a press statement, Mr Desai said he had therefore informed the president that it would be only fair and proper that the leader of that party should be invited first to explore the possibility of forming a government.

Mr Desai's broadcast which was scheduled to take place this evening was canceled.

Mr Desai said that in the best tradition of democracy he had submitted his resignation to the president as they had lost the absolute majority that the people of India had given to the Janata Party. But he felt that the experiment of forming the Janata Party continues to be as relevant in the present condition as it was when the party was formed. He felt the experiment can still succeed if personal ambitions could be subordinated to values and principles of democratic cooperation.

Mr Desai said: What is of immediate importance is to face with determination and realism the situation that has arisen and which must cause concern to all. He hoped every effort will be made by all concerned to insure that the period of uncertainty is as brief as possible.

Mr Desai spoke of the achievements of the Janata government during the last 27 months. But he added that there had also been shortcomings and failures. According to him, the biggest failure was a total disregard of values which led to the formation of the party. Group rivalries were revived. The flames of divisive passions were fanned. So, it could appear that the Janata experiment had failed, but it was not so.

Mr Desai added that as he was (?quitting) office he did so in full confidence of the future of our great country. He thanked those who reposed their confidence in him during his years in office and outside.

Janata Leader Discusses Party Strength

BK161650 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jul 79 BK

[Text] The Janata Parliamentary Party secretary, Mr Murli Manohar Joshi, has said that his party's strength in the Lok Sabha remains intact at 220, and it is exploring the possibility of providing a stable government.

Disputing the reported claim of Mr Charan Singh that he has the support of some 280 members, Dr Joshi said Mr Charan Singh is trying to form a ministry with the help of Mrs Gandhi's party and this is something for the country to judge. He said it is surprising that Mr Charan Singh left the Janata Party after being elected the leader of the deserters, as Dr Joshi put it.

In reply to a question, Dr Joshi said that no meeting of the Janata Parliamentary Party is scheduled for the present.

Jagjivan Ram To Remain

BK161651 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jul 79 BK

[Text] Mr Jagjivan Ram told newsmen in an informal chat this evening that he will continue to remain in the Janata Party. He denied he is planning to join the Congress.

Raj Narain Claims Supporters

BK161706 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jul 79 BK

[Text] There were intense political activity today in New Delhi on the question of formation of a new government at the center. The day began with Mr Charan Singh, who had been elected leader of the Janata, calling on the president and staking his claim to form a government.

Mr Charan Singh is understood to have told the president that his group has a strength of 88 members in the Lok Sabha. Mr Charan Singh announced that he has resigned from the caretaker government and also from the Janata Parliamentary Party.

Later, the parliamentary party of the group had a meeting under the chairmanship of Mr Charan Singh. Mr Raj Narain told newsmen that the strength of the group has increased to 91, and he expects some more members to join. He said the president has asked for the signatures of the members of the group in support of their claim and these are being sent.

The Janata Party President Mr Chandra Shekhar and the Congress Party leader, Mr Chavan also called on the president separately. The president is continuing consultations with leaders of different political parties on the formation of a new government.

Jana Sangh MPs Reaffirm Loyalty

BK161705 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jul 79 BK

[Text] Members of Parliament belonging to the erstwhile Jana Sangh have clarified that their loyalty to the Janata Party and its manifesto is absolute and unequivocal.

In a joint statement issued after the meeting of the members in New Delhi today, they said in the last 27 months they have demonstrated this loyalty unambiguously. It said that their silence has stemmed from their anxiety to preserve the party's unity. This, the statement said, should not be mistaken for weakness.

Mr L.K. Advani, briefing newsmen after the meeting, said a systematic attack has been made in the last few months on the former Jana Sargh members. He said as the charges were being made by the colleagues in the same party we refrained from replying, lest it would hurt the unity of the party.

Socialist Groups Outline Stance

BK161640 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jul 79 BK

[Text] The erstwhile socialist group in the Janata Parliamentary Party has urged Mr Morarji Desai to step down from the party leadership. The 23-member group, which decided to stay with the Janata Party, met in New Delhi today at Mr Madhu Dandavate's residence.

The meeting, presided over by Mr S.M. Joshi, reaffirmed their resolved to work for implementing the party's manifesto. A spokesman of the group told newsmen that members felt that the Janata Party is still the largest in Parliament. Those who attend the meeting included Mr Surinder Mohan, Mr H.V. Kamath, Mr (Rudolf Rodrigues) and Mr Shiv Chandar Jha.

The leader of the newly formed socialist bloc in the Lok Sabha, Mr George Fernandes, said his group will not support any government which includes the Jana Sangh or the RSS [Rashtriya Swayamseveak Sangh] or depends on Mrs Gandhi's party.

Congress-I Party: No Coalition

BK161031 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Jul 79 BK

[Text] The Congress-I Party in Parliament today decided not to participate in any coalition which might be formed to succeed the Morarji Desai government at the center. At a general body meeting it also decided that it will not extend support to any coalition directly or indirectly connected with the Jana Sangh-RSS [Rashtriya Soyamsevak Sangh] elements.

Chavan Urges Realinement

BK161029 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 16 Jul 79 BK

[Text] The Congress leader, Mr Y.B. Chavan, has said that the no confidence motion moved by him in the Lok Sabha has achieved its purpose. In a statement issued today, he said the time has come to recognize the need for realinement of forces. Mr Chavan appealed to all former congressmen to help reinforce the party which alone, according to him, can provide stability.

The Congress Parliamentary Party executive and the congress parliamentary board are meeting today to consider the latest developments.

Congress Leaders Discuss Moves

BK161655 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 16 Jul 79 BK

[Text] Congress President Swaran Singh said that a grouping for providing a viable and stable government at the center is emerging in which the Janata group led by Mr Charan Singh is also there. He told newsmen after the Congress Parliamentary Board meeting this evening that contacts have been made with the leaders of various political parties including the CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist], the CPI and some leaders of the AIADMK [All-India Anna-Dravida Munetra Kazhagam].

Mr Swaran Singh said there has been no contact with the Congress-I. He said he has not contacted Mr Jagjivan Ram, and he will however welcome Mr Jagjivan Ram if he joins the Congress. Mr Swaran Singh said we have not yet reached the stage of taking a decision on the leadership of the grouping. The question of sharing power or extending support from outside is being discussed. The Congress Parliamentary Board is again meeting tomorrow.

The Congress-I Parliamentary Party, at its general body meeting this evening, decided to support from outside any government formed without the participation or support of the Janata Party. The meeting was presided over by Mrs Indira Ghandhi. A party spokesman told newsmen that Mrs Gandhi mentioned at the meeting that there is a move to form some kind of a national government which will be most acceptable to the majority of the people.

Asked whether the party's support was conditional on disbanding the special courts, the spokesman said the question was not discussed.

Desai Address Cancellation

BK170712 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 17 Jul 79 BK

[Text] The uncertainties arising from the splintering of parties in the Lok Sabha have for the first time since independence cast a unique role on the president. Mr Sanjiva Reddy has been called upon to ascertain the rival claims of strength before deciding upon calling any one to form a new government. He continued his discussions with various leaders yesterday.

According to agency reports, the prime minister, Mr Desai, had decided to cancel his proposed broadcast to the nation on radio and television yesterday on the advice of the president. It is said that objection had been raised by some political circles that a caretaker prime minister should not make use of the national media for a broadcast to the nation.

Chandra Shekhar Denial

BK170913 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 17 Jul 79 BK

[Text] Janata Party President Chandra Shekhar has said he had never personally suggested to Mr Desai to resign from the prime ministership or the leadership of the Janata Parliamentary Party. He was clarifying remarks to this effect attributed to him on the basis of a news agency report.

Mr Chandra Shekhar said he had already taken the position that it was for the prime minister to take a decision on his own.

SRI LANKA

PREMADASA, TULF LEADER ASK PEOPLE TO REMAIN CALM

BK161649 Hong Kong AFP in English 1627 GMT 16 Jul 79 BK

[Text] Colombo, 16 Jul (AFP)--The prime minister Ranasinghe Premadasa and Appapillai Amirthalingam, leader of the separatist Tamil United Liberation Front (TULF), tonight made a joint appeal to the people to maintain calm and not to be influenced by mischief mongers.

The unprecedented joint statement by Mr Premadasa, and Mr Amirthalingam, who is also leader of the opposition in Parliament, came as rumours spread today about communal incidents in some parts of the country.

The president, J. R. Jayewardene, last Wednesday declared a state of emergency in the Jaffna district in the north, the homeland of the minority Tamils, in a [word indistinct] deal with a wave of violence unleashed there by a group of militant youth campaigning for a separate state for the minority Tamils.

The appeal for calm was issued following discussions earlier today by Mr Amirthalingam and his colleagues of the TULF, which is spearheading a move for a separate Tamil state, with President J.R. Jayewardene and Prime Minister Premadasa.

In their statement the two men said, "We pledge that we will take on ourselves the responsibility for maintaining communal harmony and providing protection to all citizens who might be the target of communal activities as well as anti-social elements who seek to exploit any situation to their own selfish advantage." They also called upon all religious and social service organisations to use their influence to counter rumours in the various villages and to protect the property and lives of innocent citizens.

President Jayewardene has backed his declaration of a state of emergency in Jaffna by appointing an army brigadier, Tissa Indraka Weeratunga, as overall commander of the security forces in the area with orders to eliminate terrorism by the end of the year.

The government will also arm itself with special laws next Thursday for the prevention of terrorism. Draft legislation called the prevention of terrorism (temporary provisions) bill is to be introduced when Parliament next meets on Thursday and debated to a finish as a matter of urgent national interest.

Observers here believed that the president enforced an emergency in Jaffna to prevent terrorist activities there from producing a backlash of communal violence between the Tamil minority and the Sinhala majority in other parts of the country.